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THE WHISKY TRIALS.

Testimony of Ex-Solicitor Wilson.

Inside History of the St. Louis Trials—The Babcock Matter—Grant Acted in Good Faith, but Was Misled.

WASHINGTON, July 28.—Before the Committee on Whisky Trials to-day, the examination of Bluford Wilson, ex Solicitor of the Treasury, was continued. In connection with the statement in his previous testimony of General Porter's explanation of the term "Syiph," Major Wilson having refreshed his memory by reference to a letter from a friend in New York, testified that the annoyance which it was said the woman "Syiph" gave the President was by her efforts to blackmail him in St. Louis. The examination was continued as follows:

Question by Mr. Cochran, Chairman of the sub-committee—You said in your examination yesterday that from the time of the discovery of the "Syiph" dispatch implicating General Babcock in those whisky frauds, or tending so to implicate him, the President of the United States did not show the same sympathy with the Secretary of the Treasury or yourself that he had previously shown. Please state any act or acts of the President from that time forward indicating to you that he was not in sympathy with these whisky prosecutions.

A.—Before I proceed to answer that question, I wish to make an addition to my testimony by presenting to the committee the contents of the Barnard letter on which the President made the well known indorsement, "Let no guilty man escape if it can be avoided." Either in the body of that letter or in the accompanying document there was a statement from Emery S. Foster, of St. Louis, to the effect that the President was himself charged with being a member of an unlawful combination in that city to defraud the Government of its revenues. I want that fact to be noted, because I have no doubt that the President made his indorsement as much with reference to that fact and that allegation as with reference to the allegation that Babcock was a party, and that "Dan" Sickles, the President's brother-in law, was openly asserting that the Secretary of the Treasury would not hold his office for thirty days. Another point: I was asked yesterday whether the President consented willingly to the publication of the indorsement on the Barnard letter, which has been so often referred to. By reference to the letter addressed to me by General Bristow, under date of August 7th, written in the Treasury Department, I find that the Secretary of the Treasury had addressed an official communication to the President asking him for permission to publish that indorsement, and that at that date—August 7th—he had received no response. For the purpose of fixing the date when the "Syiph" telegram was discovered, I refer to the letter of General Bristow to me, written in New York, August, 1875, and which I have no objection to make a part of the record. It is as follows:

"NEW YORK, August 8, 1875.

"MY DEAR WILSON: Your letter of yesterday with inclosure is received. The time is very near at hand when I must make a square issue with the thieves and scoundrels who have to-day the power to destroy me. I must be supported cordially and earnestly, or I must and will break. I fear the complications are such that the former cannot be done and I must break. You can't be too careful about talking to anybody. I have heard here that matter about the "Syiph" dispatch, and our having seen it in connection with Mr. Pierrepont is fully known to P. and B. (meaning Porter and Babcock), and they are greatly disturbed. Don't suffer yourself to talk with anybody about it. Of course this is not meant for censure, but caution. I suppose I must make up my mind to bear the abuse of the 'ring' papers, hard as it is to do. They are fighting for their dear friends out of prison and to save themselves from exposure, and of course will seek to destroy anybody who stands in their way. Well, as for myself, I will not look back, nor will I stop to parley with thieves. I have no ambition to serve and no purpose but the enforcement of the law and honest collection of the revenue. I will compromise on nothing short of this, but on this issue am ready to be sacrificed any day.

"P. S. Ask Webster to write the President fully his views upon the Chicago Custom House and the 'whisky ring.' He has great confidence in Webster, and it is going to require the utmost watchfulness of us in real friends to save him from being misled by men who profess friendship for him, but who are acting treacherously. Tell Webster to write strongly, and give him the main points. Mark his letter 'Confidential.' B. H. B."

Now, in respond to the question of the Chairman, I may say that the Secretary of the Treasury and myself, having been ordered by the President to see that no guilty man should escape if it could be avoided, on consultation mutually concluded that the President could not go back on that injunction without placing himself in a false position, and we therefore resolved to leave the whole matter of General Babcock's alleged connection with the whisky ring as St. Louis to be dealt with by the local officers there. Until about the 1st of December, and indeed, I may say, until it was known absolutely that General Babcock had been indicted, the relations of General Bristow and myself with the President were passable; but as soon as it was seen that Babcock was to be indicted, the idea of a military court was brought to the front to my knowledge by General Babcock and his friends. The idea of a military court was broached before the indictment was found against Babcock, and the fact that the President of the United States took the ground that a military court should supersede the proceedings before a civil tribunal at St. Louis was taken by myself and by the Secretary to be a marked indication of his purpose to defeat the prosecutions in that city. On the 3d or 4th of December I wrote to letter to General Henderson, advising him fully of my views, and indicated to him the wish and purpose of the Secretary of the Treasury to seek by all honorable means that the proceedings before the civil tribunal should not be postponed or delayed or embarrassed, if he could prevent it, by any proceedings to be instituted or had before a military tribunal. Of that letter I have not a copy, but General Henderson, I believe, has the original. In the next place, I do not find that I heard nothing from the President of the charge that I had put spies upon him or of the forged letter which was advanced against me as stated in my testimony yesterday, until it was seen and known that General Babcock was indicted. The conference between the President and myself, which I think I stated yesterday to have taken place late in November, took place, as I find by reference to contemporaneous documents, on the 8th of December, 1875. It will be remembered that in that interview the President expressed himself to me with regard to General Henderson and Mr. Dyer with great bitterness, and immediately thereafter General Henderson was dismissed from that prosecution. He was dismissed in opposition to a written protest addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury, in which I called the attention of the Secretary to the fact that he was advised officially by Eaton, of counsel for the Government, that Judge Treat, President Judge at the trial in which the alleged unprofessionable remarks of General Henderson were made, was said to have declared to Eaton and requested Eaton to notify parties here that in his judgment General Henderson's remarks contained no reflection whatever on the President. I also called attention to the fact that Eaton, Dyer and Henderson had all in writing informed me that no such purpose existed on Henderson's part, and that, on the contrary, it appeared from the records in possession at that time, and now in the Treasury Department, that General Henderson went out of his way in an argument in that case to state that in his judgment the President was altogether above reproach as far as he knew, and to pay the President a compliment. I said, therefore, to the Secretary of the Treasury that it accepted the judgment of General Henderson's colleagues and of the court as conclusive on that question, and that in my judgment the President of the United States ought to rise above personal considerations, in view of the fact that the public interests imperatively required General Henderson's retention in the prosecution. The dismissal of General Henderson was in my judgment a fatal blow to the prospect of successful prosecution in General Babcock's case.

Question by Mr. Plaisted—Have you the protest to which you have just referred?

A—I have not, but it is now on the files of the Treasury Department, and I will make it an exhibit before I get through. It is a matter of record there. I find under date of December 4th the following letter written by me:

"DEAR EARNEST: I wrote General Henderson a confidential letter last night, giving you the situation of affairs at this end in the 'Syiph' matter. We do not know here what you are doing, but suppose of course you are doing your duty." That is the letter in which I have made reference to the controversy in regard to the military and civil tribunal. Another ground was the President's refusal to remove Jasper D. Ward, United States District Attorney at Chicago, until he was confronted by evidence on the 3d of December, which showed that Ward was a partner in the Powell distillery and had improper relations with Jacob Rehm, which statement was made to the President by Hon. Burton C. Cooke, of Chicago. On that point I said to Secretary Bristow, December 8:

"DEAR GENERAL: Mr. Cooke was just in to see me With some startling news. He saw the President after he left me, and was assured by the President that he would remove Ward promptly, and to that end he would asked Webster to name his successor at once; but what was especially noteworthy was a letter to Cooke from a reliable friend in Chicago, attributing Logan's illness to sheer fright. It charges that he is in it, that the atmosphere was full of rumor about Ward's connection with the ring, his relations with the distiller Powell, &c., &c. The inclosed from Brooks may interest you. The Lord give you wisdom. Faithfully, WILSON." That note I sent to General Bristow in the Cabinet, and the ejaculation at the end of it was because I knew that the proposal to have a military court of inquiry was under consideration. Now I want to read as part of my testimony a letter to me from General Webster, dated the 25th or December, 1875.

UNITED STATES INTERNAL REVENUE }
OFFICE DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS. }
CHICAGO, December 26, 1875.

MY DEAR SIR: Do you not begin to rub your eyes and inquire whether you are awake—whether we are any of us awake—but all invoked in some new nightmare? Was there ever such scandalous lying and pleading? Is it not the remarkable fight of a century? Is there any key to it all, except that base conspiracy with clients of all classes and kinds are desperate, and are summoning all their forces, pledging their reliance on unparalleled audacity of villainies and cunning accusation? Is it possible that Babcock has not say countenance to a proposition for an attack on Bristow? Will he confess his own infamy and try and drag down the Secretary with himself? What other explanation is there for the *Inter-Ocean's* attack? I suspect that the ring have got entire control of the *Inter-Ocean*. They are desperate and will furnish all the money necessary to get an English organ, as they have a German one in the *Staats Zeitung*. What are we coming to when such things can even be attempted in the open day? But I took my pen to ask you a question. I have been told that the man Russell is there in Washington, and has the impudence to try to blackmail both the Secretaries of War and the Treasury. Is that so? I can hardly believe it, and yet I see that he has lived so long in the atmosphere almost peculiar to the political whisky ring of Chicago that perhaps he has no conception of honesty left, and no idea of decency unscrupulility in any one. Yesterday I warned Dexter and Ayer to have no further conference with him, to have it only with Sweet and Smith. Please let me know whether there is such a graceless scamp as to have really blackmailed the Secretaries. I hope this outburst of malice in the *I.O.* will overshoot its mark, and instead of making a breach between the President and Mr. Bristow, have the opposite effect and unite them more firmly in the fight against corruption. Bristow's time is coming when all good men of all parties must band together against the rascals, as the only way in which the country can be saved; but we shall soon see. Write me a few words of truth and soberness. Truly, yours, J. D. WEBSTER.

Hon. Bluford Wilson.

On the 15th of December, while in St. Louis, I wrote the President of the United States this letter:

MY DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: Pardon me for troubling you to read the inclosed clipping from yesterday morning's Chicago *Tribune*. I might, under ordinary circumstances, be quite content to let the matter pass by with a contemptuous laugh; but, as to permit that gentleman and Hon. C. B. Farwell to settle their own differences in their own way. In view, however, of the many misrepresentations which have been set afloat that have reached you, and of the fact that I did not care to go into the matter with a reporter, I wish to say to you that the whole story of Mr. Farwell's visit, as it relates to me, is utterly and unqualifiedly false, even as a joke. A poor one at best, it is wholly without foundation or warrant in any statement I have made in reference to any case, either inside or outside the whisky ring suits. If it comes in your way, I will be obliged if you will show plainly to Mr. Farwell, or any one at you with his complaint against me, I will take it as a favor if you will call his attention to my answer. The situation here and at Chicago seems to me unsatisfactory. I return to Washington to-night.

With great respect, your friend,
BLUFORD WILSON.

I wrote that letter in reply to a charge which Farwell caused to be telegraphed to the Chicago *Tribune*, that I had, on occasion of a certain visit to Chicago, said to J. D. Ward, while he was District Attorney, that he must indict Babcock and Logan, and when Mr. Ward asked me for the evidence, I said to him, "Damn the evidence, indict them first and find the evidence afterward." On the 26th the Chicago *Tribune* article referred to stated that the telegram was submitted to Ward under Farwell's consideration, upon Farwell's statement that Ward would confirm it, and upon Ward's confirming and corroborating it, it should be published. Upon its being submitted to Ward, he wrote a letter to the *Tribune*, and denied ever having had any conference or conversation with me upon which any such interpretation could be placed. To the above I wrote to the *Tribune* the note to me for a denial, I simply said, "I have none to make to so utterly absurd a charge;" I make this statement because the letter of the reporter of the New York *Graphic* and the correspondent of the Chicago *Inter-Ocean* in this city has in substance repeated the charge in a new shape, as I suppose, sought from me, and I presume also to the *Inter-Ocean*. This was my answer then made to the Chief Magistrate of the land, and it is my answer to the charge to-day.

In further response to questions of the committee: Both the Secretary and myself were very early in the day in certain grave apprehension, as to what the issue would be in the Babcock case, for the reason that I learned from the President and C. S. Bell himself that the President had been importuned by Mrs. Babcock, and from the President, from C. S. Bell and from the Attorney-General, that the full representation to employ Bell to go to St. Louis and to report, not to Dyer, but directly to the Attorney-General, and, in fact, that the intention was that the President understood from Dyer and Henderson intended to go there if it were possible. On December 18, 1875, I wrote to Dyer as follows:

"DEAR DYER: I am informed that you have made a mistake in trusting C. S. Bell. He has been pretending to know that you have been undermining to implicate Babcock, and it is possible that he may return to St. Louis. If he does, put your best man on to watch him. He will soon see where the mine is. He calls upon you, don't let on that you suspect, but don't trust him, and keep your own counsel. What I say, I know what I am writing about, and you must burn this on your honor."

I also state in connection with this, reprehensible action on the Attorney General and to the President, when I learned that it was in contemplation to send this agent of Mr. Loubs as induced them reconsider their proposed action, and he was not employed. It is a fact that Mr. Pierrepont was induced to write earnest in the Babcock matter, in opposition to the views of the Secretary of the Treasury and myself. On the 16th December he sent for me and confronted me with the statement that it was reported that I was trying to get up evidence, from Dyer, to indict his son, Colonel Fred D. Grant, indicted for complicity in the whisky frauds, and I denied the conversation, and again asserted his earnest belief in Babcock's innocence, and the general character of the fraud been perpetrated on him by Henderson in refusing to send to the military court at Chicago the original evidence collected by the records of the civil tribunal at St. Louis. As illustrating the personal attitude of the President to myself, I may mention that Colonel Grant told the reporter of the New York *Herald* in December that Babcock's indictment was the result of a conspiracy between myself and Treasurer official (naming myself) and Carl Schurz. This I state because the reporter, I know, has stated that I was not quoted, as he did also Mr. Norothoff, and because I brought the attention of the President specially to it, in the forty-second day of January the attention of Colonel Fred D. Grant. I now refer to the indorsed statement concerning the 27th of January, 1876, I received this note.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
WASHINGTON, D. C., January 27, 1876.

MY DEAR MR. SOLICITOR: The President says to drop you a note, and ask you to come over and see him. Very truly yours,
LEVI P. LUCKEY.

Hon. Bluford Wilson, Solicitor of the Treasury.

Before going further, I will state that I had twice called upon the President and told him I states before I could get an interview with him on the question of the charge made against me by Colonel Fred. Grant, and that season after that I did not call at the White House except when I was sent for. I was sent over by the President, promptly, and learned that he was dissatisfied with the course of the Secretary of the Treasury and myself in the conduct of the prosecutions at Milwaukee and Chicago and St. Louis. He objected specifically and distinctly to our private letters which we pleaded guilty to be used as witnesses to convict others; in other words, to the granting of accomplices. He called my attention to the case of Gaaber Roddis, of Milwaukee, against whom a nolle pros. had been entered. He said to me that there was quite too much of that thing going on, and read from the report to show that a nolle pros. had been entered for the purpose of using Roddis as State's evidence. He said that he would not tolerate it upon his return. I suppose he has been promised immunity too?" I said to him, "Mr. President, so far as I know, up to this date Roddis is the only instance in which a *nol. pros.* has been entered for the purpose of accepting the party as State's evidence. In answer to your question as to whether Everest is not to be prosecuted, I should say that I have specific information on that point from the District Attorney, and he tells me that no promise whatever has been made to him, and that none will be." He asked me what Everest would testify to. I told him that it was said Everest would testify that he, Joyce and Avery paid letters containing $500 each, one addressed to Babcock. He asked me when Everest returned. I told him that he returned about the 12th of January, 1876. He asked me if I knew where he was. I told him that I understood that with his uncle somewhere in Western Pennsylvania. He said to me, "Major, when I said to Everest, 'Tell no lies,' I supposed he would tell it, and not that nine men should escape and one be convicted by his testimony." Pardon me, Mr. President; we are not in this battle counting heads. We are trying to break up the united conspiracies and combinations by which we all know exist, and if possible to reach those who have instituted and organized them; yet I know of no other way of doing this and obtaining proof of the conspiracy than by getting a number of the conspirators to testify. I give it to you as my judgment that the policy which has been adopted by local counsel upon the indictments found in the United States Courts under the instructions of either the Secretary or myself will result in accomplishing this purpose, and that none other will." Secretary Chandler sat just back, at the further end of the Cabinet room, and said to the President, "Mr. President, I notice the presence of the member of the Cabinet. If you give me time to go into this matter, I think I could satisfy you that you are laboring under a misapprehension." "O," said he, "it is not worth while. I simply wanted to call your attention to the fact that in my judgment there is too much of this going on." "That being so, I have nothing to do, Mr. President, but to bid you good morning," and I did so.

I went out deeply impressed with what the President said to me. I went to the Secretary of the Treasury and told him what had taken place. I said to the Secretary that in my opinion it was of vital importance that he should see the President on that day; that I had reason to believe, and did believe, that A. T. Sutton, then lately returned from Chicago (on the 29th of January, I believe), had endeavored to create the impression in the mind of the President that we were giving away everything in the city of Chicago for the purpose of convicting Rehm and Hesing. Ward, and while the question as to the propriety of the policy was not then at issue, it was important that he should see the President immediately, take with him his letters to Sutton, let me take my letters to Sutton, and his telegrams to Webster, and explain to the President the whole case. He reluctantly consented. We went, and the Secretary, with great particularity, stated to the President fully and fairly, reading from official documents, the situation of affairs at Chicago. The basis of what the Secretary had to say is covered by his telegram of mine to Webster, January 14, 1876.

General J. D. Webster, Chicago, Ills.:

The following dispatch was sent by the Secretary to Tutton this morning. It ought to cover the ground. He [the Secretary] has implicit confidence in local counsel and prosecuting officials. "A. P. Tutton, Supervisor, etc.: As to have dressed any injustice to the parties indicted parties, so we decline to interfere with any that has been entered into by the United States District Attorney with the defendants, his associates and the local revenue officials. Having confidence in their judgment and fidelity, we leave the transaction in their hands not doubting that they will do what will best subserve the interests of the government."

After the Secretary and myself had continued our statements and the explanation of our positions, the President expressed himself wholly satisfied therewith, and referred with great kindness to General Wood and then ensued a very kind and friendly interview touching other matters between the Secretary and the President, which it is not proper for me to go into further than to say that General Babcock's case was again alluded to, and Everest's testimony was referred to by the President to the Secretary. On the evening of that day I addressed the Secretary the following letter:

"January 27, 1876.

"DEAR GENERAL—I called to bid you *bon voyage*, and to say that within an hour after our return from the White House, Babcock came in a little wrought up and very nervous, and asked me if I had any news. I replied that I had none; that we had not been given the President, to which he said, 'Yes, it is that about which I desire to ask you. What does Everest claim?' I replied that while I hardly believe it, and yet I see that he has lived so long in the atmosphere almost peculiar to the political whisky ring of Chicago that perhaps he has no conception of honesty left, and no idea of decency unscrupulility in any one. Yesterday I warned Dexter and Ayer to have no further conference with him, to have it only with Sweet and Smith. Please let me know whether there is such a graceless scamp as to have really blackmailed the Secretaries. I hope this outburst of malice in the *I.O.* will overshoot its mark, and instead of making a breach between the President and Mr. Bristow, have the opposite effect and unite them more firmly in the fight against corruption. Bristow's time is coming when all good men of all parties must band together against the rascals, as the only way in which the country can be saved; but we shall soon see. Write me a few words of truth and soberness. Truly, yours, J. D. WEBSTER.

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Before going further, I will state that I had twice called upon the President and told him I states before I could get an interview with him on the question of the charge madeagainst me by Colonel Fred. Grant, and that season after that I did not call at the White House except when I was sent for. I was sent over by the President, promptly, and learned that he was dissatisfied with the course of the Secretary of the Treasury and myself in the conduct of the prosecutions at Milwaukee and Chicago and St. Louis. He objected specifically and distinctly to our private letters which we pleaded guilty to be used as witnesses to convict others; in other words, to the granting of accomplices. He called my attention to the case of Gaaber Roddis, of Milwaukee, against whom a nolle pros. had been entered. He said to me that there was quite too much of that thing going on, and read from the report to show that a nolle pros. had been entered for the purpose of using Roddis as State's evidence. He said that he would not tolerate it upon his return. I suppose he has been promised immunity too?" I said to him, "Mr. President, so far as I know, up to this date Roddis is the only instance in which a *nol. pros.* has been entered for the purpose of accepting the party as State's evidence. In answer to your question as to whether Everest is not to be prosecuted, I should say that I have specific information on that point from the District Attorney, and he tells me that no promise whatever has been made to him, and that none will be." He asked me what Everest would testify to. I told him that it was said Everest would testify that he, Joyce and Avery paid letters containing $500 each, one addressed to Babcock. He asked me when Everest returned. I told him that he returned about the 12th of January, 1876. He asked me if I knew where he was. I told him that I understood that with his uncle somewhere in Western Pennsylvania. He said to me, "Major, when I said to Everest, 'Tell no lies,' I supposed he would tell it, and not that nine men should escape and one be convicted by his testimony." Pardon me, Mr. President; we are not in this battle counting heads. We are trying to break up the united conspiracies and combinations by which we all know exist, and if possible to reach those who have instituted and organized them; yet I know of no other way of doing this and obtaining proof of the conspiracy than by getting a number of the conspirators to testify. I give it to you as my judgment that the policy which has been adopted by local counsel upon the indictments found in the United States Courts under the instructions of either the Secretary or myself will result in accomplishing this purpose, and that none other will." Secretary Chandler sat just back, at the further end of the Cabinet room, and said to the President, "Mr. President, I notice the presence of the member of the Cabinet. If you give me time to go into this matter, I think I could satisfy you that you are laboring under a misapprehension." "O," said he, "it is not worth while. I simply wanted to call your attention to the fact that in my judgment there is too much of this going on." "That being so, I have nothing to do, Mr. President, but to bid you good morning," and I did so.

I went out deeply impressed with what the President said to me. I went to the Secretary of the Treasury and told him what had taken place. I said to the Secretary that in my opinion it was of vital importance that he should see the President on that day; that I had reason to believe, and did believe, that A. T. Sutton, then lately returned from Chicago (on the 29th of January, I believe), had endeavored to create the impression in the mind of the President that we were giving away everything in the city of Chicago for the purpose of convicting Rehm and Hesing Ward; and while the question as to the propriety of the policy was not then at issue, it was important that he should see the President immediately, take with him his letters to Tutton, let me take my letters to Tutton, and his telegrams to Webster, and explain to the President the whole case. He reluctantly consented. We went, and the Secretary, with great particularity, stated to the President fully and fairly, reading from official documents, the situation of affairs at Chicago. The basis of what the Secretary had to say is covered by this telegram of mine to Webster, January 14, 1876.

General J. D. Webster, Chicago, Ills.:

The following dispatch was sent by the Secretary to Tutton this morning. It ought to cover the ground. He [the Secretary] has implicit confidence in local counsel and prosecuting officials. "A. P. Tutton, Supervisor, etc.: As to have dressed any injustice to the parties indicted parties, so we decline to interfere with any that has been entered into by the United States District Attorney with the defendants, his associates and the local revenue officials. Having confidence in their judgment and fidelity, we leave the transaction in their hands not doubting that they will do what will best subserve the interests of the government."

After the Secretary and myself had continued our statements and the explanation of our positions, the President expressed himself wholly satisfied therewith, and referred with great kindness to General Wood and then ensued a very kind and friendly interview touching other matters between the Secretary and the President, which it is not proper for me to go into further than to say that General Babcock's case was again alluded to, and Everest's testimony was referred to by the President to the Secretary. On the evening of that day I addressed the Secretary the following letter:

"January 27, 1876.

"DEAR GENERAL—I called to bid you *bon voyage*, and to say that within an hour after our return from the White House, Babcock came in a little wrought up and very nervous, and asked me if I had any news. I replied that I had none; that we had not been given the President, to which he said, 'Yes, it is that about which I desire to ask you. What does Everest claim?' I replied that while I hardly believe it, and yet I see that he has lived so long in the atmosphere almost peculiar to the political whisky ring of Chicago that perhaps he has no conception of honesty left, and no idea of decency unscrupulility in any one. Yesterday I warned Dexter and Ayer to have no further conference with him, to have it only with Sweet and Smith. Please let me know whether there is such a graceless scamp as to have really blackmailed the Secretaries. I hope this outburst of malice in the *I.O.* will overshoot its mark, and instead of making a breach between the President and Mr. Bristow, have the opposite effect and unite them more firmly in the fight against corruption. Bristow's time is coming when all good men of all parties must band together against the rascals, as the only way in which the country can be saved; but we shall soon see. Write me a few words of truth and soberness. Truly, yours, J. D. WEBSTER.

Hon. Bluford Wilson.

On the 15th of December, while in St. Louis, I wrote the President of the United States this letter:

MY DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: Pardon me for troubling you to read the inclosed clipping from yesterday morning's Chicago *Tribune*. I might, under ordinary circumstances, be quite content to let the matter pass by with a contemptuous laugh; but, as to permit that gentleman and Hon. C. B. Farwell to settle their own differences in their own way. In view, however, of the many misrepresentations which have been set afloat that have reached you, and of the fact that I did not care to go into the matter with a reporter, I wish to say to you that the whole story of Mr. Farwell's visit, as it relates to me, is utterly and unqualifiedly false, even as a joke. A poor one at best, it is wholly without foundation or warrant in any statement I have made in reference to any case, either inside or outside the whisky ring suits. If it comes in your way, I will be obliged if you will show plainly to Mr. Farwell, or any one at you with his complaint against me, I will take it as a favor if you will call his attention to my answer. The situation here and at Chicago seems to me unsatisfactory. I return to Washington to-night.

With great respect, your friend,
BLUFORD WILSON.

I wrote that letter in reply to a charge which Farwell caused to be telegraphed to the Chicago *Tribune*, that I had, on occasion of a certain visit to Chicago, said to J. D. Ward, while he was District Attorney, that he must indict Babcock and Logan, and when Mr. Ward asked me for the evidence, I said to him, "Damn the evidence, indict them first and find the evidence afterward." On the 26th the Chicago *Tribune* article referred to stated that the telegram was submitted to Ward under Farwell's consideration, upon Farwell's statement that Ward would confirm it, and upon Ward's confirming and corroborating it, it should be published. Upon its being submitted to Ward, he wrote a letter to the *Tribune*, and denied ever having had any conference or conversation with me upon which any such interpretation could be placed. To the above I wrote to the *Tribune* the note to me for a denial, I simply said, "I have none to make to so utterly absurd a charge;" I make this statement because the letter of the reporter of the New York *Graphic* and the correspondent of the Chicago *Inter-Ocean* in this city has in substance repeated the charge in a new shape, as I suppose, sought from me, and I presume also to the *Inter-Ocean*. This was my answer then made to the Chief Magistrate of the land, and it is my answer to the charge to-day.

In further response to questions of the committee: Both the Secretary and myself were very early in the day in certain grave apprehension, as to what the issue would be in the Babcock case, for the reason that I learned from the President and C. S. Bell himself that the President had been importuned by Mrs. Babcock, and from the President, from C. S. Bell and from the Attorney-General, that the full representation to employ Bell to go to St. Louis and to report, not to Dyer, but directly to the Attorney-General, and, in fact, that the intention was that the President understood from Dyer and Henderson intended to go there if it were possible. On December 18, 1875, I wrote to Dyer as follows:

"DEAR DYER: I am informed that you have made a mistake in trusting C. S. Bell. He has been pretending to know that you have been undermining to implicate Babcock, and it is possible that he may return to St. Louis. If he does, put your best man on to watch him. He will soon see where the mine is. He calls upon you, don't let on that you suspect, but don't trust him, and keep your own counsel. What I say, I know what I am writing about, and you must burn this on your honor."

I also state in connection with this, reprehensible action on the Attorney General and to the President, when I learned that it was in contemplation to send this agent of Mr. Loubs as induced them reconsider their proposed action, and he was not employed. It is a fact that Mr. Pierrepont was induced to write earnest in the Babcock matter, in opposition to the views of the Secretary of the Treasury and myself. On the 16th December he sent for me and confronted me with the statement that it was reported that I was trying to get up evidence, from Dyer, to indict his son, Colonel Fred D. Grant, indicted for complicity in the whisky frauds, and I denied the conversation, and again asserted his earnest belief in Babcock's innocence, and the general character of the fraud been perpetrated on him by Henderson in refusing to send to the military court at Chicago the original evidence collected by the records of the civil tribunal at St. Louis. As illustrating the personal attitude of the President to myself, I may mention that Colonel Grant told the reporter of the New York *Herald* in December that Babcock's indictment was the result of a conspiracy between myself and Treasurer official (naming myself) and Carl Schurz. This I state because the reporter, I know, has stated that I was not quoted, as he did also Mr. Norothoff, and because I brought the attention of the President specially to it, in the forty-second day of January the attention of Colonel Fred D. Grant. I now refer to the indorsed statement concerning the 27th of January, 1876, I received this note.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
WASHINGTON, D. C., January 27, 1876.

MY DEAR MR. SOLICITOR: The President says to drop you a note, and ask you to come over and see him. Very truly yours,
LEVI P. LUCKEY.

Hon. Bluford Wilson, Solicitor of the Treasury.

Before going further, I will state that I had twice called upon the President and told him I states before I could get an interview with him on the question of the charge madeagainst me by Colonel Fred. Grant, and that season after that I did not call at the White House except when I was sent for. I was sent over by the President, promptly, and learned that he was dissatisfied with the course of the Secretary of the Treasury and myself in the conduct of the prosecutions at Milwaukee and Chicago and St. Louis. He objected specifically and distinctly to our private letters which we pleaded guilty to be used as witnesses to convict others; in other words, to the granting of accomplices. He called my attention to the case of Gaaber Roddis, of Milwaukee, against whom a nolle pros. had been entered. He said to me that there was quite too much of that thing going on, and read from the report to show that a nolle pros. had been entered for the purpose of using Roddis as State's evidence. He said that he would not tolerate it upon his return. I suppose he has been promised immunity too?" I said to him, "Mr. President, so far as I know, up to this date Roddis is the only instance in which a *nol. pros.* has been entered for the purpose of accepting the party as State's evidence. In answer to your question as to whether Everest is not to be prosecuted, I should say that I have specific information on that point from the District Attorney, and he tells me that no promise whatever has been made to him, and that none will be." He asked me what Everest would testify to. I told him that it was said Everest would testify that he, Joyce and Avery paid letters containing $500 each, one addressed to Babcock. He asked me when Everest returned. I told him that he returned about the 12th of January, 1876. He asked me if I knew where he was. I told him that I understood that with his uncle somewhere in Western Pennsylvania. He said to me, "Major, when I said to Everest, 'Tell no lies,' I supposed he would tell it, and not that nine men should escape and one be convicted by his testimony." Pardon me, Mr. President; we are not in this battle counting heads. We are trying to break up the united conspiracies and combinations by which we all know exist, and if possible to reach those who have instituted and organized them; yet I know of no other way of doing this and obtaining proof of the conspiracy than by getting a number of the conspirators to testify. I give it to you as my judgment that the policy which has been adopted by local counsel upon the indictments found in the United States Courts under the instructions of either the Secretary or myself will result in accomplishing this purpose, and that none other will." Secretary Chandler sat just back, at the further end of the Cabinet room, and said to the President, "Mr. President, I notice the presence of the member of the Cabinet. If you give me time to go into this matter, I think I could satisfy you that you are laboring under a misapprehension." "O," said he, "it is not worth while. I simply wanted to call your attention to the fact that in my judgment there is too much of this going on." "That being so, I have nothing to do, Mr. President, but to bid you good morning," and I did so.

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 1876.

A PROFESSIONAL railroad wrecker is poor material for making a "reform" President.

THE New York *World* believes that CARL SCHURZ reads that paper intently. It says he "is nursing himself on an automat e diet of asses' milk."

THERE is a great cry of poverty in the South, and they are going to expend $30,000 for a monument to the rebel General LEE in the city of Richmond!

THE Reading Railroad Company has decided to build a grain elevator on its property on the Delaware river in Philadelphia, to accommodate the Western business coming over the new Erie and Lehigh Valley line.

THE Senate has refused to impeach BELKNAP, on the ground of want of jurisdiction. But he carries his own punishment with him. Conviction could have added nothing to his fall; acquittal cannot restore him to public confidence.

ACCORDING to the British Board of Trade returns for the first six months of the present year, Sheffield trade with the United States has been less than one-third of what it was two years ago, and trade with Russia less than one-half.

THE Connecticut political correspondent of the New York *Times*, after carefully reviewing the whole situation, concludes that Connecticut is much more certain for HAYES than it was for GRANT in 1872, and will give a larger vote for him.

THE United States District Court of Michigan has just decided that the assignment of a debt secured by mortage carries with it the mortage as an incident of the debt, even although there is no mention made of the mortage in the assignment.

BALTIMORE papers are urging the construction of the Maryland and Delaware ship canal, which would shorten the route 225 miles to ocean steamers, thus saving the circuitous passage by the foot of Chesapeake Bay. Why don't the capitalists of that city put their own hands to the plow?

EX-SENATOR FITCH, of Indiana, is an ardent supporter of TILDEN and "reform." FITCH served in the Union army for a brief season, but resigned as soon as the Emancipation Proclamation was issued, upon the ground that the war had been turned into a fight for the "infernal niggers."

THE regular peach trains from Delaware to New York are just commencing to run, and all signs promise liberal supplies. The growers and dealers alike anticipate better profits this year than last, as they are not likely to be overwhelmed with fruit beyond their ability to handle or put into consumption.

THE twenty-third annual session of the Pennsylvania Teachers' Association will convene at West Chester, August 8, continuing through three days. A number of eminent gentlemen from different States and foreign nations, now attending the Centennial, will be present and address the association.

THE recital of the story of Servian self-sacrifice to carry on the war of Sclave emancipation against Turkey, recalls the times that tried men's souls in this country. All the high officials of the State, including the ministers, are now receiving less than £80 a year, and even upon this pitiful sum a war tax is levied.

THE colored men who attended the recent indignation meeting at Hamburg, South Carolina, to denounce the murder of their brethren by a mob of Georgia cutthroats, have been discharged by their employers. Meanwhile, Governor CHAMBERLAIN, what are you doing in the premises? Fine words butter no parsnips.

THERE is considerable talk in New York about sending out live cattle for the English market. The annual exports of beeves to that country also make a large item in our shipments of agricultural products. Brother JONATHAN feeding JOHN BULL with roast-beef and ale is as odd, to say the least, as sending coals to Newcastle.

APPLETON OAKSMITH, the notorious African slave trader, is the President of a TILDEN and VANCE club at Morehead city, Carteret county, North Carolina, and is an ardent supporter of TILDEN and HENDRICKS. JOHN KELLY has recently written a very loving letter to him, in which he informs him that the city of New York will give TILDEN a majority of 50,000.

THERE has been a decided improvement in the proportion of grain housed at New York city lately, compared with Philadelphia and Baltimore. Comparing receipts by rail and by water during the past three years, it appears that in June, 1874, and June, 1875, more than two-thirds of the grain received was by water, while in June of the present year, only fifty five per cent. was thus moved. Thus it seems that the canal loses, despite the increased aggregate receipts at that port.

THE Democratic niggardiness has compelled the Signal Service Bureau to discontinue cautionary and danger signals at some of the most important points on the New England coast, and the local indignation is so great at Newport, at a dangerous point on the Sound, that Senator BARNUM and ex-Representative KELLOGG have entered into bonds to insure the Government for the expense of continuing the danger signal if Congress shall not hereafter make the necessary appropriation.

ACCORDING to the New York papers the leading merchants of that city speak hopefully of trade prospects, now that we have entered the last of the summer months. They argue that the harvests are abundant, which means increased ability of the farmers to become purchasers, and also cheap bread for the industrial and laboring classes, while stocks of all kinds of merchandise are known to be unprecedentedly low in the interior, which must be replenished at an early day.

IT NOW seems certain that the House bill to repeal the Bankrupt act will not pass the Senate. The Senate Judiciary Committee, however, it is stated, have reported a bill providing for the appointment of a commission to investigate the operation of the several statutes in relation to bankruptcy, and to recommend legislation thereupon, the passage of which bill will be urged upon the House of Representatives with a view to further legislation upon the Bankrupt law at the next session of Congress.

THE foreign commerce of New York city, last week was: General merchandise imports, including dry goods, $5,186,729; produce exports, $4,790,941; and specie exports, $695,181. The total imports of merchandise at that port since January 1st, this year, were $175,075,081, against $205,-905,835 for the corresponding period in 1875 and $246,383,750 in 1874. The total exports of produce from the port were $147,682,220, against $222,144,117 in 1875 and $255,158,088 in 1874, and the total exports of specie were $37,241,904, against $58,169,306 in 1875 and $46,067,428 in 1874.

THE Democratic papers make a great noise when a prominent German happens to take their side of the fight, and endeavor to make the unsophisticated believe that the Germans as a rule are supporting their ticket. A Kansas correspondent of the Cincinnati *Times*, who lives in a German settlement, says he does not believe that one in ten will support TILDEN, although a majority of them were Liberal Republicans. They say they never were Democrats and never intend to be; that HAYES suits them exactly, and that his letter of acceptance covers the whole ground. So much for that Democratic bubble.

WE LEARN from the Philadelphia *North American* that the Atlantic Iron Works near Norfolk, Virginia, have been leased by a New York manufacturer, who has purchased the machinery and is backed by a Northern company of capitalists interested in shipbuilding. The enterprise promises some increase in iron activity and a very useful increase in the construction of iron ships. A marine railway will be constructed at once. The building and repairing of ships will be the principal industry, which cannot fail to increase hereafter in harmony with the general welfare.

THE New York *Bulletin* has compiled a statement showing the indebtedness of sixty-four cities in this country as it stood in 1870 according to the census of that year, and the enormous increase such indebtedness has made by giving the latest obtainable figures. These sixty-four municipalities had in 1870 an aggregate indebtedness of $278,640,000. In 1876 the aggregate had grown to $640,870,000, showing an increase of $362,200,000, or at the rate of 130 per cent. within a period of five or six years. This affords a fair indication of the political effects of the general inflation and extravagance that culminated in the panic of 1873.

THE malignant partisan majority report in the ROBESON investigation is likely to prove valuable to the country. It is the first of the long series of campaign documents which the Democratic House has prepared at enormous cost to the country. The Washington correspondent of the Cincinnati *Gazette* says it is a fair specimen of most that will follow it. Every nook and corner of Republican administration has been explored by these committees, nearly forty in all, by similar means. Lunatics, thieves, the most disreputable gang of detectives which the country can afford, perjured men, men under indictment, and the very dregs of the political pool have all been welcomed, and encouraged to talk, and have been treated with more decency by these committees than the highest officers of the Government. And when the whole work has been accomplished, what has been the result? Has Republican administration been found notoriously corrupt? Has the charge of general fraud been established, even if the evidence of these witnesses be accepted as true? It was to be expected that this complete overhauling of every department of public affairs by a hostile inquest, armed with full powers, and bent upon making the worst possible showing, would develop many things that would put Republicans to the blush. And yet, after every corner has been thus searched, the result has simply proved the general honesty and good management of nearly every branch of the Government. And when the few cases of fraud discovered are held up, honest men should remember that these are everything that partisan ingenuity, clothed with full power to examine, could discover in seven months of persistent labor. Forty committees working night and day through these long months have developed only what is before the country-making the conclusion inevitable that in the main the Republican administration of affairs has been as honest as government under our system can be. Instead, therefore, of proving the existence of general Republican corruption, these committees have fairly proved exactly the reverse.

THE Democratic House Committee on Expenditures in the Department of Justice, have reported at last. They have spent over six months in dragging through all the business transacted by that department during the last fifteen years, and they have discovered absolutely nothing on which they can base a single charge against a Republican administration. For anything which they can condemn, except the system of preventing and detecting registration and election frauds, which was invented and put into successful operation in New York city by Commissioner DAVENPORT. They do not find the money dishonestly used, nor complain of the vigorous operations of the DAVENPORT system, except that it is expensive, and that the President overstepped the provisions of the statutes when he ordered the Department of Justice to furnish DAVENPORT money to put it into force under the act of Congress appropriating a sum of money each year for the prevention and detection of election frauds. This objection, however, is effectually disposed of by the Republican minority report, which quotes the statute and the provisions of the appropriation bills to show that the President and Attorney General WILLIAMS were authorized to furnish DAVENPORT the money. The minority report also shows the absolute necessity for some such system as DAVEPORT's for preventing frauds in the Democratic wards in New York. It relates the history of the Tammany frauds, the LAWRENCE investigation of 1870, the subsequent legislation which carried the DAVENPORT system into operation, the Committee of Seventy, and the destruction of the organized schemes to carry out fraud in New York, and recommends that the system be continued—as it ought to be.

THE question of war or no war, which is just now occupying the attention of nearly all the principal governments of Europe, is also creating not a little anxiety in Italy; since if the more powerful nations should become involved, it would be extremely difficult, even with the strongest desire for peace, for Italy to remain neutral. Her interests also in the East, where her language is spoken very generally, and a large commerce in various Italian products is maintained, would make her desire to protect them. But these interests are inseparably connected with those of civilization and progress, and her sympathies are entirely with the opressed Sclavic nations which are struggling for liberty as she herself did so long. We do not believe she would act the unworthy part of protecting with her money and blood a government which, like the Turkish, is condemned by every principle of modern civilization. It is evidently for the interest of Italy that she should remain neutral on this question, and if she maintain an army and navy, that they should be only for the defense of her own independence, and not for any aggressive purpose what ever. CAVOUR departed from this ancient precept of the house of Savoy in the Crimean war for a specific purpose, and by sending his small quota of soldiers to join the armies of the other nations of Europe, procured a valuable recognition of the position of Piedmont as the sustainer of Italian independence, and directed attention to the great question of Italy. But there is no motive now, and the slightest uncertainty as to the intentions of the ministry on the subject of war awakens the most vivid anxiety in the nation.

THE Washington *Republican* gives some interesting particulars concerning a swindler named ROCKAFELLOW, who was arrested in that city last Saturday for obtaining money under false pretenses. He turns out to be the confederate of certain Dr. WARREN, hailing from Port Royal, South Carolina, recently, and formerly claiming Key West as his residence. ROCKAFELLOW and WARREN were the aids of WHITTHORNE, Chairman of the House Committee on Naval Affairs, in manufacturing material for his innuendoes against the Secretary of the Navy. The whole of the so-called testimony upon which is founded the majority report against the Navy Department, as to the award of contracts for furnishing provisions to the fleet at Key West and Port Royal, was, it is alleged, furnished by ROCKAFELLOW and WARREN in conjunction. They formed a league for that purpose, and ROCKAFELLOW was fitly chosen to gather the garbage with which WARREN besmirched the Secretary and the heads of bureaus in the Navy Department. WARREN, who until a few months past, was the contractor for supplying the fleet, was not a regular dealer in provisions, but was better known as the proprietor of a gambling den and a small tavern at Port Royal. The Government contract being taken from him and awarded to another person at a lower price for the provisions, WARREN swore vengeance against the Secretary of the Navy. He went to Washington and formed an alliance with the swindler, ROCKAFELLOW, and together these worthies furnished the Committee on Naval Affairs with its "reliable" information upon which solely was based one of the principal charges against the Navy Department. ROCKAFELLOW is now in jail.

VANCE, the Democratic candidate for Governor of North Carolina, is the man who during the war proposed "to fight the Yankees until hell freezes over, and then fight them on the ice." It is also proved that he called upon JEFF. DAVIS for aid to drive Union men into the Confederate armies. In a letter written by him to Dr. JAMES CALLOWAY, dated September 15, 1864, he said:

> If the deserters in Wilkes that are daily reinforcing Kirk were at their posts, regular troops could be spared for your defense.

No countenance for favor must be shown to a deserter or his friend. *It is my fixed purpose to visit them with fire and sword if they refuse to surrender by the 25th of this month, and their friends will fare little better.*

This, the Washington *Republican* states, was at a time when the State Legislature had declined to enact laws for the punishment of desertion, and when the always strong Union element in the State was making itself felt in favor of peace and in opposition to the rebel dynasty. It is perhaps unnecessary to add that VANCE is a red-hot supporter of TILDEN and "reform."

MONEY is now offered in Wall street at two per cent. per annum on call loans, with good security. This fact illustrates the tendency of capital to become centralized whenever trade becomes dull. Instead of accepting this condition as a simple one in itself, on the other hand, one of the worst features in the present state of things. It would be much better for the public if the immense accumulations now encumbering the Wall street banks were in circulation through the whole extent of the country. Capitalists are now waiting the results of the elections. If the policy of the nation be changed to the misrule of the Democratic party, moneyed men will hold on to their hoards. If, on the other hand, the election of HAYES and WHEELER be accomplished, the prospects are that business will revive and that capital will be put into circulation. The correspondent of the Rochester *Democrat* says there are $60,000,000 lying idle in the banks of that city, while thousands of men and women are suffering for want of employment.

THE returns of the imports of dry goods into the port of New York for July show a decrease from even the small importations of the corresponding month of 1875, the total entries standing $5,052,436, as against $6,091,740. Compared with July, 1874, there is a decrease of $4,805,925. The decline in values on the other side has figured to some considerable extent in the money value of the importations, the decrease being 11½ per cent. from last year and 48½ per cent. from July, 1874; while the number of packages was greater the past month than in July last year, and 39 per cent. below the number in 1874. The details show that the aggregate value of foreign fabrics placed upon the market during the month was $4,466,415, a decrease of $1,650,350 compared with July last year, and $3,411,024 compared with 1874. Of the aggregate imports, the amount which entered direct for consumption was $2,494,779, or $615,817 less than the total last year, and $2,598,162 below that for the corresponding month in 1874.

THE eastward movement of breadstuffs by lake, last month, was extremely light as compared with former years. The tubular statistics of the Buffalo *Express* show that the aggregate receipts at that port during the month, including flour reduced to wheat, were 5,816,167 bushels, which is 3,784,883 bushels less than the receipts during the corresponding month last year, and three to four million bushels less than any corresponding month in the years since 1870. The decline is largely in wheat, which shows some 3,000,000 bushels less than last year. Corn was 200,000 bushels less, while in oats there was an increase of about the same quantity. The falling off in flour during July, compared with the same month last year, was 46,181 barrels, and from the opening of lake navigation to the end of July, compared with the corresponding period last year, the decline is 148,797 barrels. The total grain receipts by lake since opening, including flour reduced to wheat, are 21,-076,603 bushels, being 1,709,815 bushels less than the corresponding period last year.

THE Republican Legislature of Texas enacted, in 1871, an efficient public free school law, and while that law was in force, and until the Democrats came into power, in 1873-4, they had schools general ly throughout the State. A letter to the Chicago *Inter-Ocean* states that the writer does not know of a public free school in the State now, though there were a few schools taught the years 1875-6 for four months in the year. Moreover, school teachers that taught in 1873 under the Republican system have not yet received their pay; true, they received a promise to pay in the shape of a warrant, but there has not yet been made any provision to pay those warrants, while a few teachers that taught since under a Democratic school law have been paid. And to keep in remembrance old Confederate times the present Legislature is about investing the permanent school fund of the State in State bonds. What is the meaning of this investment? Are they preparing to secede again?

REFERRING to the monetary disturbance in India, especially as to the revenues of the Government by the decline in silver, the London *Economist* discusses various propositions as a remedy, and among others the demonetization of silver, or the adoption of a double standard, both of which plans the *Economist* pronounces impracticable, and then concludes that the true way is to "allow the ordinary action of trade to spread it through the world, so that the depreciation may be every where alike, and affect prices everywhere where silver is the currency." If there is any combination to prevent "the natural action of trade" from spreading silver through the world, it is a startling fact; certainly the owners of our bonanza mines are not in the combination, for they are doing all they can to spread it; but if, on the other hand, the meaning of all this is, that we must wait for a revival of trade to diffuse the metal, it is an idea which did not require a very scientific elaboration.

TABLES are now in order to show that more money was drawn during General Jackson's administration than under General Grant. This might be told to the marines but we submit it is a little too steep to ask any sane man to swallow. *Post.*

For the benefit of our contemporary we reproduce the table in question, which is authentic and official, the figures being derived from ex-Secretary BRISTOW's report submitted to Congress in response to a resolution of that body:

Administration.	Net loss per $1,000.
Jackson (first term)	$41 18
Van Buren (Florida war)	20 25
Harrison and Tyler	14 46
Polk	10 35
Taylor and Fillmore	8 53
Pierce (Mexican war)	6 94
Buchanan	3 85
Lincoln (rebellion)	2 07
Lincoln and Johnson	1 83
Grant (first term)	1 61
Grant (second term)	1 01

THE Washington correspondent of the Springfield (Mass.) *Republican*, a bitter opponent of the Administration, sets forth the true inwardness of the average Democratic instinct in the following revealing manner:

> The fact is, that a majority of the Democrats, North and South, still hate the black man, and dislike to do him entire justice. It is not true, as is sometimes alleged, that anybody has a purpose of reducing him again to slavery, but a large and influential class of Democrats resist to the last a recognition of the fact that the negro is no longer a chattel, but a man and a citizen, entitled to the same rights as his white brother. A majority of the Southern members find it hard to treat a black man decently. If he will only "keep his place," and be respectful and humble, they are willing to agree not to persecute him, but to meet him as an equal (politically) is what they can't and won't do yet. And among the Northern Democrats there are the meanest negro haters in Congress.

THE United States Circuit Court of Illinois has just decided that under the laws of that State it is no more necessary that a married woman shall acknowledge than that a married man shall in order to make a valid deed. The same proof that binds the husband binds the wife. The statutes give a married woman full and complete control over her property, and place her on the same footing as a femme sole. She may acknowledge it as if she were unmarried, and the signature can be proven against her the same as though she were so. Heretofore, in that State, it has been held that a married woman could only convey her real estate by acknowledging the deed before an authorized officer and submitting to an examination separate and apart from her husband.

THE excessive terminal charges and great discrepancies at Chicago have contributed not a little to the diversion of the grain trade from that port. There is, however, some probability that relief may presently be had. We learn from the Buffalo *Advertiser* that a number of Chicago capitalists have associated themselves with three gentlemen from Iowa, large shippers and members of the Iowa State Grange, and organized a company to be incorporated under the title of the "Chicago Transfer Elevator Company." Four new transfers are to be built, and, if possible, the two now there will be purchased. The proposition is to handle grain at very low rates, and to guarantee that there shall be no shortage, in Chicago at least.

TOWARD the close of the war the United States Government erected at Glasgow, Kentucky, a commodious building for the use of the colored people for school purposes, since which time there have been numerous additions and improvements made to the buildings and grounds by resident colored people, while a school for the education of the freedmen has been almost constantly in operation, sustained by private subscriptions. Last Friday evening the colored people assembled in their house to organize a HAYES and WHEELER club, and on the same night the Democrats held a meeting in the Court House in favor of "TILDEN and reform"—*after which the colored people's school house was burned to the ground.* Comment is unnecessary.

GIRT BY FIRE AND DEATH.

De Rudio's Thrilling Story of His Narrow Escape—Surrounded by Savages and by Flames—Thirty-six Hours of Mortal Peril—The Narrative of a Survivor of the Custer Massacre.

[From the New York Herald.]

When we were half way over the creek I noticed a guidon on the side we had left, and returned to take it. It entangled itself in the branches and slipped out of my hand. I dismounted to pick it up. As I was about to mount my horse was struck with a bullet, and, becoming frightened, ran into the Indians, leaving me dismounted in the company of about 300 Sioux not more than fifty yards distant. They poured a volley at me, but I managed to escape to the thicket near by, where I found Mr. Gronard, the interpreter, a half-breed Indian and Private O'Neil, of Company G, Seventh Cavalry. The first two had their horses, but O'Neil, like myself, was dismounted. I told the owners of the horses that the presence of the animals would betray us, suggesting at the same time that they be stampeded. They declined to act on the suggestion, and I left them and crawled through the thick underwood into the deep dry bottom of the creek, where I could not easily be discovered. I had not been in the new position more than ten minutes when I heard several pistol shots fired in my immediate vicinity, and shortly thereafter the voices of several "squaws." I raised my head with great caution to see what they were at, and found them at the revolting work of scalping a soldier who was perhaps not yet dead. Two of them were cutting away, while two others performed a sort of war dance around the body and its mutilators. I heard a cracking noise near me. The Indians had ignited a fire. The wood being very dry, the fire made rapid headway, and I was forced from my hiding place. I crawled out of the creek bottom as I had approached, and as I was about to ascend the bank, I was rejoined by the party I had left a short while before. They, like myself, were afraid of the fire; but fortunately for us the wind subsided and a little rain fell, sufficient to arrest the flames and revive our hopes that we might be able to remain there till night.

It was now three o'clock P. M.—six more hours to wait—and we could hear and often see Indians near us. Finally the time came when, under the protection of night, we were able to come out of our hiding place and take the direction of the ford, two miles to the south, through an open plain. Mr. Gronard and the woman mounted their horses, and the soldier and myself took hold each one of a horse's tail and followed the horses.

In our transit through the open plain we passed many Indians returning to their village, and could hear but not see them, as the night was very dark. We reached the wood near what we took to be the ford we had passed in the morning, but were mistaken and had to hunt for the crossing. Once we forded to mid stream, but it was of a bend, and we had to ford it again. When we recrossed the river we ran full into a band of eight savages. The two mounted men ran by their horses' tails, and myself jumped into the bushes near us. The savages evidently thought from the precipitate retreat of the two mounted men that all of us had decamped, and began to talk among themselves. In a few minutes they continued their course, and soon went out of hearing. We then made for the ford, were all well guarded by the savages, and that it would be very dangerous to attempt to cross any part of the river. Hoping for the probable return of the command in the morning, or that the Indians would leave, we sought a hiding place in the thick underwood and briers near the river, and then waited our fate as to morrow.

In the dim dawn of day we heard an immense tramping as of a large cavalry command, and the splashing of water, and troops crossing the river. I imagined it was our command, as I could distinctly hear the sound of the horses' shoes striking the stones, and cautiously stepped to the edge of the bushes to look out (not more than three yards from the bank), thought I recognized some gray horses mounted by men in military blouses, and some in white hats. I saw one man with a buckskin jacket, trousers, top boots and white hat, and felt sure I recognized him as Captain Tom Custer. With this conviction, I stepped out on the bank and called, "Don't leave us here." The distance was only a few yards, and my call was answered by an infernal yell and a discharge of 600 or 800 guns. Then I saw that the savages were clad in clothes and mounted on horses which they had captured from our men. Myself and the soldier jumped into the bushes (the bullets rattling like hail on branches at every volley), and crawled off to get out of range. In doing so we moved the top branches of the underwood, and the Indians on the bank on the bluff fired where they saw the commotion, and thus covered us with their rifles. We now decided to cross a clearing of about twenty yards and another wood, but before doing this I took the precaution to look out. The prospect was terribly discouraging, for on our immediate right, not more than fifty yards distant, I saw four or five Indians galloping toward us. Near by me were two cottonwood stumps, nearly touching each other, and behind this slender barricade we took our stand, I to carbine and I with my revolver, ready to do or a few of the savages before they could kill us. We determined not to fire until they came so near that we could not miss them, and there we waited. They had not seen us, and when the foremost man was about 15 paces of me, and about ten yards distant, I fired.

At my fire the savages turned a right about and were making off, but Private O'Neil fired his carbine at the nearest savage, who at that moment was reining his pony to turn him back. The private's eye was true and his carbine trusty, for the Indian dropped sideways, threw up his arms and dropped dead. The gentleman I greeted rode a short distance and then did likewise. The rest of the party rode on, turned in the direction of the wood and disappeared. During all this time the fire from the bluff continued. From our position we could see the Indians on the bluffs, their horses picketed under cover of the hill and a line of sharpshooters, all lying flat on their stomachs. We could hear the battle going on above us on the hills, the continued yells of the musketry, the shouting of our command and the shouting of the savages.

Our hopes revived when we heard the familiar cheer of our comrades, but despondency followed fast, for our wood was on fire. The shap crackling of the burning timber approached nearer and nearer with awful rapidity, and we had to shift our position. The heat became fearful as the edge of the wood, and discovered fire on both sides. We moved around until we found a thick cluster of what they called Illinois tree, and there we bivouacked.

The grass on the edge of this place was very green, and as it had been raining a little before, and there was no wind, when the fire approached the hiding place it ran very slowly, and I was enabled to smother it with my gauntlet gloves. The fire consumed all the underwood around us, and was almost expended by this time. We could see savages going backward and forward, and one standing on picket not more than seventy or eighty yards from us, evidently on the lookout to watch the progress of the fire. At about four o'clock P. M. this picket fired four pistol shots in the air at regular intervals, which I interpreted to be a signal, for afterward we heard a savage crying out, making the same sound four times, and after these signals we saw 200 or more savages in the bluffs and ford the river, evidently abandoning the ground. About one hour later the same double signals were repeated, and many mounted Indians galloped by us. Soon the remainder of those on the bluffs also retired.

During the thirty-six hours that we were in suspense we had neither water nor food. At ten o'clock P. M. we dropped ourselves into the river—the water reaching our waists—crossed it twice, carefully crawled up the bluffs and finally reached a broken high country, took our direction and slowly and cautiously proceeded southward. After marching two miles I ascended a very high hill and saw a fire, probably two miles from us. Of course we made two conjectures on this fire—it might be an Indian fire and it might be from our command. The only way to ascertain was to approach it cautiously and trust to chance. Accordingly we took the direction of the fire, and after proceeding half or more again stopped on a high hill and listened. We could hear voices, but not distinctly enough to tell whether they were of the savages or our command. We proceeded a little further and heard the bray of a mule, and soon after the distinct voice of a sentry challenging with the familiar words, "Halt! Who goes there?" The challenge was not addressed to us, as we were too far off to be seen by the picket, and it was too dark, but this gave us courage to continue our course. We were about two hundred yards from the fire, and I resolved to call out the picket and tell him who I was. I told my companion to be ready to follow after me, and, after I had carefully surveyed the ground, cried out, "Picket, don't fire; it is Lieutenant De Rudio and Private O'Neill." We received an answer in a loud cheer from all the members of the picket and from Lieutenant Vernum.

WHERE IS JENKINS?

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

LEIPZIG, SAXONY, July 14, 1876.

What is the matter with your establishment? Have you no enterprise, no ambition? The COMMERCIAL Company is a wealthy corporation, and its stock is not often in market. It is able to pay for news, and, in some respects, it is a first-class paper; but, in others, it is so far behind the age that I do not believe its editor-in-chief could catch sight of that same age if he sat on the headlight of a locomotive on a limited mail train, with a first-class field glass to aid him. Here he is, in this centennial year, running a paper without an Jenkins? There he sits hammering away on public schools and public virtue, election, policies, pig metal, the Papacy and other unimportant matters, while only about once a month he has a column on the all absorbing "question of petticoats." He talks about furnaces to the neglect of flounces and ruffles; petroleum crowds out plaitings and half the time your readers may, for all you, be in a most deplorable state of ignorance about the most becoming style of hats.

I address this to the managing editor and hope he may slip it in without saying anything to the chief, who ought to have a little fire in the rear just now, to wake him up to the real business of the nation. He will cut a pretty figure in Washington mowing around with his head full and pockets full of bills about "Pennsylvania interests" and tariffs and taxes, with no more idea than a wooden man on the real interests of the nation, not of knowing whether Mrs. Smith's dress was made at Worth's or at some little shop around the corner!

A pretty representative he will be of modern American ideas. I have been thinking about this in a lazy kind of way for some time; but a late number of the COMMERCIAL stirs me to remonstrance. In it, in a few lines, is an announcement of the marriage of a Pittsburgh lady to a St. Louis gentleman, and not one word about the bride's toilette. Call the COMMERCIAL a newspaper, do you? Give us a marriage in high life without hanging the bride's underclothes out on five hundred lines for public inspection, without spreading her corsets on every breakfast table, that every reader might take the measure of her waist, and, well, there is no use to talk. This case is beyond the reach of words!

Now I happen to know that the bride groom is a rather rising young thing, that the father of the bride is wealthy and indulgent, and that she had good clothes. I know, also, that she has an elegant figure and would wear almost any costume and dignity that would compel admiration, and that you have lost a golden opportunity. A good Jenkins with that wedding could have filled from six to eight columns of close type, created a demand for hundreds and thousands of extra copies; carried emulation into thousands of families; made thousands discontented with their lot; and thousands of weak men and women to vain and ruinous attempts to go and do likewise, and helped materially to blow up the bubble of inflation, on which we are still trying to continue our long ride.

But, maybe, it is not all the fault of the COMMERCIAL. The bride's family have, no doubt, been to blame, for the father is almost as old-fashioned as your chief. If he had had business enterprise and had wished to hang his daughter's stockings and etceteras on lines, all over the nation, and in all public thoroughfares, as an advertisement of his family and faith, he could have fell it cruel to dis appoint him; but, after every apology is made, I feel the stupidity of the whole affair none the less sensibly.

They do things better in other American cities; and Pittsburgh with the old, blue Presbyterianism, is perhaps the only one in which that freedom of views as the necessities of the occasion. The leaders of the party out of Congress are fearful of creating outspoken dissensions if the letters now published before adjournment, as it would give the refractory members a chance to express themselves.

The seating of Goode, of Virginia, contrary to all precedent of justice, it is intimated, was the result of a bargain with the hard-money Democrats, that he would not appear again this session, thus frustrating the plans of the Democratic Committee of Finance and Currency for the repeal of resumption. The Silver bill, it is also admitted, has no more chances of passage.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 2, 1876.

Lamar a Shallow Pretender.

The report of the Grand Jury for the Northern district of Mississippi, amongst other documents to the same effect now in possession of the Department of Justice, shows that the election there was carried by fraud, violence and murder, and that the courts were powerless to punish offenders. By this process a Legislature was elected which chose Lamar to the Senate. Lamar's attempt to pose as a man of moderation is too shallow. Senators do not trust his professions, and it is well understood that his apparent anxiety to have the Hamburg assassination affair is simply designed to mislead Senators, in view of his admission to Senate being so near at hand. Take all the documents in possession of the Government and the report of the Senate Select Committee on Mississippi Elections, and it will be a rough road for Lucius Quintius Curtius Lamar to travel before he can hide himself a cloak to cover his real feelings.

The Republican Senatorial Caucus,

after adjournment to day, had a somewhat desultory talk over the status of legislation and adjournment. The appropriations are now slowly reaching a solution, and it is confidently believed that adjournment can be had early next week. Senators, however, are not disposed to commit themselves to a fixed day of adjournment until they have some assurances of what the House proposes to do in the matter of investigation reports. They fear that once unbound, the House may rush in all sorts of allegations for political purposes, and without regard to veracity.

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 1, 1876.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE ON THE HAMBURG MASSACRE.

The following message was received by the Senate from the President to day:

To the Senate of the United States:

In response to the resolution of the Senate of July 20th, calling upon the President for communication to the Senate, if in his opinion not incompatable with the public interest, any information in regard to the slaughter of American citizens at Hamburg, South Carolina, on the 8th instant, I have the honor to submitt following inclosure:

[Here follow a number of papers relative to the Hamburg massacre.]

U. S. GRANT.

The President's letter to these inclosures embrace all the information in possession touching the late disgraceful and brutal slaughter of unoffending citizens of Hamburg, South Carolina. My letter to Governor Chamberlain contains all the comments I wish to make. As allusion is made in the letter to the unsatisfactory condition of affairs particularly to Louisiana and Mississippi, I have added to the inclosures, letters and testimony in regard to the lawless condition of affairs in the latter State. In regard to Louisiana affairs, the murders and massacres of innocent men for opinions' sake, or on account of color, have been of so frequent occurrence and of too frequent recurrence to require recapitulation or testimony here. All are familiar with the horrible details, the only wonder being that we can find words to apologize for them. But recently a committee of the Senate visited the State of Mississippi to take testimony on the subject of the Hamburg and Vicksburg affairs. Their report has not yet been made public, but I await its forthcoming with a feeling of confidence that it will fully sustain what I have stated in this message of fraud and violence in the State of Mississippi.

U. S. GRANT,

Executive Mansion, July 31, 1876.

PRESIDENT GRANT'S LETTER TO GOVERNOR CHAMBERLAIN.

The following is the President's letter to Governor Chamberlain referred to above.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
WASHINGTON, July 26, 1876.

Dear Sir: I am in receipt of your letter of the 22d of July, and all inclosures enumerated therein giving an account of the late barbarous massacre of inoffensive men at the town of Hamburg, South Carolina. The views which you express as to the duty you owe to your oath of office and to the citizens to secure to all their civil rights, including the right to vote according to the dictates of their own consciences, and the further duty of the Executive of the nation to give all needful aid, when properly called on to do so, to enable you to insure this inalienable right, I fully concur in. The scene at Hamburg was cruel, bloodthirsty, and unprovoked and as uncalled for as it was, is only a repetition of the course that has been pursued in other Southern States within the last few years, notably in Mississippi and Louisiana. Mississippi is governed to-day by officials chosen through fraud and violence such as would scarcely be accredited to savages, much less to a civilized and Christian people. How long these things are to continue or what is to be the end remedy, the Great Ruler of the universe only knows. But I have an abiding faith that the remedy will come and come speedily, and I earnestly hope that it will come peacefully. There has never been a desire on the part of the North to humiliate the South. Nothing is claimed for one State that is not freely accorded to all others; neither will it ever be right to kill negroes and Republicans without fear of punishment and without loss of caste or reputation. This has seemed to be a privilege claimed by a few States. I repeat again that I fully agree with you as to the measure of your duties in the present emergency and as to my duties. You can rely upon me to perform, should the same dangers threaten the peace of his State, go on in the conscientious discharge of his duties to the humblest as well as the proudest citizen, and I will give every aid for which I can find law or constitutional power. The Government that cannot give protection to life, property and all guaranteed civil rights in this country, the greatest of which is an untrammeled ballot, to the citizen is insofar a failure and every energy of the oppressed should be exerted, always within the laws and by constitutional means, to regain the lost privileges and protection. Too long denial of guaranteed rights is sure to lead to revolution, bloody revolution, where suffering must fall upon the innocent as well as the guilty. Expressing the hope that the better judgment and co-operation of the citizens of the State, over which you have presided so ably, may enable you to secure a fair trial and punishment of all offenders, without distinction of race or color or previous condition, without aid from the Federal Government, but with the promise of such aid on the conditions named in the foregoing. I subscribe myself, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT.

To Hon. D. H. Chamberlain, Governor of South Carolina.

COLORADO DECLARED A STATE.

The President, in accordance with the provisions of the act of Congress approved March 3d, 1875, to-day issued a proclamation declaring and proclaiming the fact that the fundamental conditions imposed by Congress on the State of Colorado to entitle that State to admission to the Union, have been ratified and accepted and that the admission of said State into the Union is now complete.

ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS.

The House Ways and Means Committee to-day authorized the Chairman to report a concurrent resolution for the adjournment of Congress at noon on Monday next.

THE WHISKY FRAUDS INVESTIGATION.

The sub-committee on the whisky frauds to-day examined W. A. Gavett, special agent of the Internal Revenue Bureau. He testified that he had been on duty on the recent investigation of the whisky frauds in St. Louis in June 1875. Witness saw Solicitor Wilson at Cincinnati in May previous. In obedience to instructions, Wilson informed him of his suspicion of whisky frauds in Cincinnati, and had memoranda of several houses there and was directed to have the Collector removed. Witness remarked to him that unless he had charges against the Collector it were better he should move slowly. Wilson said it did not make any difference as the President was backing the movements against whisky men. Wilson did not have the Collector removed but frequently assured witness that the President was backing the movements, no matter how strong the whisky ring was. Wilson said to him that Bristow was to be the next President of the United States and gave him to understand that this was the policy to be pursued. Witness differed with him as he was under the impression that Blaine would be the next President. The instructions he received from Wilson were verbal and he made seizures in Cincinnati. In the presence of witness, Wilson wrote to the Presidency, one of them at Wilson's office in Washington. This was in September, 1875, when Wilson still insisted that Bristow was the man.

On the 20th of May Yaryan was assigned as the Chief of Revenue Agents. Yaryan undertook to instruct the witness, saying his instructions for the present were to obey instructions as such. I regarded what he said as a strong intimation that I must turn over to Bristow.

Mr. Cochran—Did Wilson ever ask you to go for Bristow? A. Yes, at the Grand Hotel. He said we were going to make him President. I said I was for Blaine.

Q. Did you refuse to go for Blaine? A. He was my superior officer.

Q. Then he had no such power to instruct you? A. If he had instructed me I should not have obeyed him, nor would I obey the President himself in such a case.

Mark Bangs, United States District Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, gave an account of the whisky trials and results.

Q.—By Mr. Plaisted—Was any evidence disclosed before the Grand Jury showing that Senator Logan or Mr. Blaine were implicated with the whisky ring? A.—Not the slightest; nor in my investigation did I discover anything tending to implicate them in the whisky frauds; nor did I hear evidence in that direction.

The examination of ex-Solicitor Wilson will be resumed to-morrow, and other witnesses will probably appear to testify.

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 3, 1876.

CONFIRMATIONS

The Senate to-day confirmed the nomination of Green B. Raum, of Illinois, Commissioner of Internal Revenue, *vice* ex-Senator Pratt, resigned; George R. Andrews, United States Attorney for the Eastern district of Tennessee; Charles C. Sheats, Appraiser of Merchandise at Mobile; Orsamus Holt, Collector of Internal Revenue in the

AN AWFUL DEATH.

The Body of a Smothered Tramp Under Eighteen Tons of Hay Four Weeks.

About four weeks ago a tramp called at the farm house of Mr. Lichtenwallner, near Fogelsville, and asked the lady of the house permission to sleep in the barn, as he did not feel well. The lady did not give him a decided answer and supposed he passed the barn without stopping in. The men were out in the field hauling in hay, and this year's crop was put in its usual place in the barn. Not long ago a very peculiar and noxious smell was noticed, and it was supposed it was caused by some dead animal concealed somewhere in the barn. Every nook and corner was searched, the planks torn up, but to no purpose. The cause of the smell could not be discovered, and the stench increased. About a week ago drops of a peculiar color were seen oozing out from under the hay, and it flashed upon the minds of the family that the cause of the fearful smell might be the body of the tramp who had applied for permission to sleep in the barn a few weeks before. The more they thought over the matter the more convinced they became that the stench was caused by the presence of the body, upon which about eighteen tons of hay were resting. It is, of course, not positively known whether the tramp was dead before the hay was piled on him, some thinking that he might have been very ill and died before any hay touched him, while the great majority think he fell asleep and did not get awake before a large quantity was piled on him and that he was smothered. The hay was removed last week one day and the body was found to be one corrupt mass, the smell of which was sickening. Several railroaders helped to remove the body with shovels and pitchforks, put the remains in a box and buried it in the Poor House cemetery. One of the men who handled the smell has been confined to his bed and is very sick.

The name of the unfortunate man could not be ascertained, as no one cared to examine the remains with a view of finding it out, the horrible stench keeping the men as distant as circumstances allowed.—*Allentown Chronicle.*

LINES ON A SKELETON.

[Fifty years ago the London *Morning Chronicle* published a poem entitled "Lines on a Skeleton," which attracted much attention. Every effort, even to the offering of a reward of fifty guineas, was vainly made to discover the author. All that ever transpired was the poem, in a *fair* clerky hand, found near, in the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, Lincoln's Inn, London, and that the curator of the museum had sent to Mr. Perry, editor and proprietor of the *Morning Chronicle*.]

Behold this ruin! 'Twas a skull,
Once of ethereal spirit full;
This dwelling was a fair abode,
This space was thought's mysterious seat,
What beauteous visions filled this spot!
What dreams of pleasure long forgot!
Nor hope, nor joy, nor love, nor fear,
Have left one trace of record here.

Beneath this mouldering canopy
Once shone the bright and busy eye;
But start not at the dismal void:
If social love that eye employed—
If with no lawless fire it gleamed,
But through the dew of kindness beamed—
That eye shall be forever bright,
When stars and sun are sunk in night.

Within this hollow cavern hung
The ready, swift and tuneful tongue:
If falsehood's honey it disdained,
And where it could not praise, was chained;
If bold to combat truth's encroaching foes,
Yet gentle concord never broke,
This silent tongue shall plead for thee
When time unravels eternity.

Say, did those fingers delve the main?
Or with the envied rainbow vie
To hew the rock or wear the gem
Can this dull tenement reply—
Can this the page of truth they sought,
Or comfort to the mourner brought,
These hands a richer meed shall claim
Than all that wait on wealth or fame.

Avails it whether, bare or shod,
These feet the depths of duty trod?
If from the halls of ease they turned
To seek Affliction's humble shed?
If Grandeur's guilty bribe they spurned,
And bower to virtue's cottage turned?
These feet with angel's feet shall vie,
And tread the palace of the sky.

The forger Winslow has written three long letters to the Boston *Herald*, in which he gives a history of his family and an account of himself, but reveals nothing of importance in regard to his criminal transactions. Before the panic he held himself to be worth $150,000. In regard to his downfall he says: "The first recollection or intimation I had of anything wrong was months after it must have happened, and then all I knew or have since recalled was what appeared incontestible evidence that it had been done. Terrified and bewildered I kept it a secret, absorbed it myself. From developments subsequently made I have reason to doubt whether this first false step was taken by me or by whom the act was done. I suppose I have drowned in a moment of bewilderment, although I did not remember it in the least."

THE strength of the Greenback movement in this State would seem to be underestimated by the "hard-money" wing of the Democracy. A prominent coal operator and iron manufacturer of Schuylkill county, in conversation with a representative of the Philadelphia *Press*, on Tuesday, stated that among the miners and laborers of the coal regions, Greenback clubs were being organized, and as these districts were largely Democratic, he presumed that the vote cast for the COOPER ticket in Pennsylvania would be drawn mainly from the Democratic ranks.

A certain mad wag on a Cincinnati journal lately distinguished himself in New York: Dining at a restaurant he noticed on the bill of fare a request to the guests to report "any want of attention." He acted upon the hint, and "I should think there had," was the reply. "I have been here fifteen minutes and *no one has asked me to take a drink.*"

He lives at Burlington, this time, and is 109 years old, thus used tobacco and alcoholic liquors quite freely for ninety six years," and yet is neither palsied, blind, deaf nor dumb. Louis Nictor Amedee Henry was born in France, in March 1757, was a soldier under the first Napoleon, came to America after the war, and has lived in Burlington fifty years. He has recently visited the Centennial.

In 1870 the number of sets of cards engaged in the production of woolen fabrics in the United States was 1,240, about two-thirds of which number was then idle. To day it is estimated that there are no less than 7,000 sets for the manufacture of the same class of goods, the same proportion as above being unoccupied.

COAL MINE DISASTER.

Four Miners Killed by an Explosion of Gas.

A terrible disaster happened on Saturday afternoon, at Gray & Bell's coal mine, on Saw Mill run, about three miles above Temperanceville. At one o'clock people residing in the neighborhood were startled by a loud report, and in a short time it was ascertained that an explosion had occurred in a mine, where a large number of miners were working. A great volume of smoke was issuing from the mouth of the pit, and it was some time before it was possible for persons to enter with safety. As soon as the smoke had cleared away a body of men entered the bank and found the bodies of the miners dead, Robert Campbell, Joseph Neale and William Eisenhart. John Eisenhart, son of the latter, was found alive, but in shocking state. The bodies were removed to their late homes and a physician summoned. Examination showed that Eisenhart had died from inhaling the fire damp, his body being not in the least disfigured. The other two were frightfully burned about the breast, loins and face and must have died in a few moments. John Eisenhart, aged fourteen, was able to articulate feebly, but could not, until some hours later, converse intelligibly.

The Coroner held an inquest yesterday on the bodies of the dead. The testimony showed twat while John Eisenhart was engaged in opening a new room he struck a vein of gas, when the explosion ensued. A verdict of accidental death was found by the jury.

Eisenhart was forty-two years old, and leaves a wife and five children. Campbell was aged seventeen and Neale fifteen. The latter was "trapper" in the pit, being employed to attend to the ventilation, and was a son of John C. Neale, of Union township.

John Eisenhart, who was reported as being badly burned, died yesterday.

The Next Grand Jury.

Following are the names of Grand Jurors called to serve at the Court of Quarter Sessions, beginning on the first Monday of September:

W. J. McGill, farmer, North Fayette township; H. H. Cridden, plasterer, Second ward, Allegheny; Alex. Winters, Kilbuck township; John Slaughterbeck, salesman, Second ward, Allegheny; Perry A. Lytle, farmer, Forward township; W. Gray, clerk, Fifth ward, Allegheny; John Harris, foreman, Harrison township; Robert M. Gibson, farmer, Fawn township; Thos. Pender, United States detective, Fifth ward, Pittsburgh; W. C. Brown, carpenter, Eleventh ward, Pittsburgh; T. Brown, plumber, Third ward, Allegheny; S. J. Hartman, tinner, Fifth ward, Allegheny; George F. Comly, grocer, Third ward, Allegheny; John A. Elder, gent, Fourth ward, Pittsburgh; William Campbell, gent, Sixth ward, Pittsburgh; John Jamison, farmer, Harrison township; Madison Bailey, steamboatman, Fourteen ward, Pittsburgh; S. W. Means, carpenter, Sixth ward, Allegheny; Chris. Keimar, carpenter, Seventh ward, Allegheny; J. W. McFarland, carpenter, Eighth ward, Pittsburgh; Henry Gerber, dry goods, Sixth ward, Allegheny; Samuel Guthrie, collector, Braddock's borough; George R. Stewart, civil engineer, Nineteenth ward, Pittsburgh; Oliver Osborne, farmer, Pine township.

THE POLITICAL CAMPAIGN.

District Vigilance Committees Appointed —Meeting of the Marching and Glee Club Committee—Notes of Interest.

The work of the campaign continues to be vigorously pushed by the sub-committees of the Republican County Executive Committee, while district organizations are being effected nightly.

MARCHING AND GLEE CLUBS.

The sub-committee on Marching and Glee Clubs, of which General Pearson is Chairman, met Monday afternoon at headquarters. The work of the committee and the question of means were discussed. The idea that the General Committee will be able to equip clubs is an erroneous one and it is desired to correct the impression. While every possible aid will be given to clubs needing it, the funds for equipments must be raised by themselves among the Republicans of their several districts. This sub-committee will, however, consult with the Finance Committee and ascertain what can be done.

The following resolution was adopted, after which the committee adjourned to meet at the call of the chairman:

Resolved, That the Republicans of the several election districts throughout the county be urged to organize marching and glee clubs at once, and report their organization to this committee, together with the number of men enrolled in the marching clubs.

DISTRICT VIGILANCE COMMITTEES.

The following names have been handed in at headquarters, for vigilance committees of districts named:

Seventeenth ward, Third district—W. L. Lendenberg, F. Donahue, Lewis Collins, Henry Dewberry, George W. Gardner, Jr., James Wallace, O. R. Gardner, John Perring, William Bateman, Andrew J. Miller, George W. King, George W. Nichols, Thomas Mitchell, Michael Fox, Samuel Tiers, James S. Dougherty, Samuel McMahan.

Findley Township—George Burns, James R. Byers, J. M. Larimer, A. E. Burns, Joseph Stewart, J. W. Hood, William Henry, John Purdy, William Carothers, Mark Gregg, William Barton.

Marshal township—John D. Davis, M. D, John F. Ritchie, Wm. Lansdale, Jr., Dr. Reider Crawford, Amos Mosley, Thomas Robinson, George Councilman, John Carnene, David Emerick, John Scaright, Samuel McMurry, Thomas Frazer, L. McAwen and William Hood.

SECOND WARD MEETING.

The Republicans of the Second ward, Pittsburgh, will meet at the school house to-morrow, Wednesday evening, for the purpose of organization and the formation of a Hayes and Wheeler marching club. Messrs. J. S. M. Young, G. L. Braun, G. L. Miller, E. G. Millikeu, W. M. DeCamp and Samuel Mason are the committee in charge.

THE FIRST WARD ORGANIZED.

A Hayes and Wheeler club was organized at the First ward school house last evening, with Mr. Jas. C. Hazley as President, and Mr. Jos. G. Hunter as Secretary. After passing resolutions ratifying the Cincinnati platform, the convention organized a marching club, with the following gentlemen as officers:

Captain—J. C. Hazely.
First Lieutenant—J. G. Hunter.
Second Lieutenant—Andrew Patton.
Orderly Sergeant—Alex. Johnston.
An adjourned meeting will be held on Friday evening next.

NOTES OF THE CAMPAIGN.

The Republicans of the Seventh ward will be called to meet at the school house on Friday evening next for organization. Messrs. John Boyd, Charles Jeramy and George W. Wilson, as ex-presentatives in the County Committee, will arrange the preliminaries.

The Committee on Organization will meet this afternoon at two o'clock, at headquarters.

The Committee on Registration will meet at two o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

A STRUGGLE WITH A BURGLAR

President Hays, of the Castle Shannon Railroad, Drives a Nocturnal Visitor from His Premises.

Milton D. Hays, President of the Castle Shannon Railroad, had an encounter with a burglar at an early hour Tuesday morning, and by his pluck and coolness succeeded in driving the rascal from his premises. It appears Mr. Hays went to his residence, at Castle Shannon, at a late hour on Monday night, and retired to rest. Shortly after midnight he was awakened by a noise in his room, and the first sight that he saw was a man standing at his bedside with his (Mr. Hays') pants in his hands. As soon as he found that Mr. Hays was awake the villian aimed a blow at his head with a handy-billy, which he parried by throwing up his arm, and only a slight scalp wound was inflicted on the top of his head. The villain then seized Mr. H. by the throat, but the latter managed to free himself and rush for his revolver. Unfortunately it was out of order, but the weapon frightened the intruder, and he rushed to the window and disappeared. Mr. H. followed, but the thief had gone. An alarm was sounded by Mr. H., and in a short time several employes responded. The three officers of whom had been keeping watch at the foot of the ladder, buried three or four stones at Mr. H. while he was whistling for help, but fortunately they failed to do any injury. An immediate search of the premises was made and a suspicious individual, who was found near the railway station, was taken in custody. He was kept under arrest until morning but was released, as he gave a satisfactory account of himself. One of the burglars in his flight, left his hat, and it may afford a clue that will lead to his apprehension. Mr. H. was somewhat bruised during the scuffle, but escaped without serious injury. Access was gained to the room of Mr. H. by means of a ladder, which the thief had carried from the barn and placed against the house at one of the windows.

THE COAL AND COKE TRADE.

Business of the Last Six Months—A Gratifying Increase.

The great bulk of the coal exported from this city is shipped from the several pools in the Monongahela river, and an accurate account of the tonnage is kept by the Monongahela Slackwater Navigation Company. As the shipments for the first six months of the current year have been tabulated, we present below a comparison with the business done during the same period of 1875:

COAL RECEIPTS.

For first six months in 1876—	Bushels.
Pool No. 1	4,822,900
Pool No. 2	17,078,800
Pool No. 3	1,267,800
Pool No. 4	9,152,800
Total	32,737,300
Same period, 1875	28,241,900
Increase	10,492,900

COKE RECEIPTS.

For first six months of 1876	Bushels.
	3,140,800
For first six months of 1875	1,506,300
Increase	1,633,900

An increase of nearly ten and a half million bushels, in the shipment of coal, for the half year, compared with the same period of 1875, is very gratifying, inasmuch as it shows that this large and important industry is not falling off in volume, whatever may be the fact in regard to prices. It is not pretended that there are anything like the profits in the coal trade that were realized previous to the panic, but there is encouragement in the fact that the demand still continues active. The increased shipments of both coal and coke indicate a steady advance in manufacturing, and other branches of business, at the points supplied, and may thus be taken as an evidence of activity in those sections. These figures have no bearing upon our home consumption of fuel, which is supplied from other sources, principally by rail. Our mills are not consuming as largely as we could wish, and many of our coal mines are notably on the lines of railway—are either idle or not running up to their capacity. All look for better times, however, in the near future.

ZUG'S MILL

Sold Thursday for $170,000 Cash.

The Sable Iron Work's (rolling mill and nail factory) of Mr. Christopher Zug, were sold at auction Thursday afternoon, by Mr. Thomas F. Stewart, by order of assignees, and was knocked down to Mr. A. F. Keating, for the sum of $170,000 cash. Mr. Keating has been the book-keeper of the establishment, and it is understood that the property was purchased for Messrs. McIntosh, Hemphill & Co., and others, including Mr. Keating, Mr. Samuel Jack, business manager, and Mr. Charles Zug. There were but two bidders—General J. R. Moorhead and Mr. Keating. The price paid, although only about one-third of the original cost of the mill, is satisfactory to the creditors, and considered good by those engaged in the iron business, in view of the general depression, and the fact that the sale was for cash. There was great rejoicing among the mill hands, and others residing in the vicinity of the mill, as it was given out that the new proprietors would have the mill in operation inside of thirty days. The mill is one of the largest and most complete in the country, and the resumption of operations cannot fail to prove highly beneficial to a large number of persons.

The residence of Mr. Zug, with thirteen acres, at Oakland, was also offered, but as there was no bid approaching the value of the property it was withdrawn. A small triangular piece of ground, adjoining the residence, was sold for $2,000.

Pittsburgh Mortuary Report.

Dr. Snively, Physician to the Board of Health, reports that during the week ending July 29 there were 72 deaths in this city. The causes of death were as follows: Measles, 1; diphtheria, 3; hooping cough, 1; choleric diarrhea, 14; tubercular meningitis, 1; phthisis pulmonalis, 5; tabes, mesenterica, 2; encephalitis, 2; meningitis, 1; congestion of the brain, 3; softening of the brain, 1; infantile convulsions, 1; sun stroke, 1; pneumonia, 1; teething, 3; dysentery, 9; diarrhea, 7; waxy liver, 1; jaundice, 1; peritonitis, 1; old age, 2; debility, 1; burns, 1; asphyxia, 1; drowning, 1; run over by cars, 2; poison, 1; unknown, 3.

Color—White, 67; colored, 5.

Social Relations—Married, males, 5; females, 3; single, males, 36; females, 25; widows, 1.

Nativity—Pittsburgh, males, 30; females, 26; other parts of the United States, males, 5; females, 6; Germany, males, 5; females, 2; Ireland, males, 3; females, 3.

Age—Under 1 year, 27; from 1 to 2 years, 18; 2 to 5 years, 6; 5 to 10 years, 1; 15 to 20 years, 3; 20 to 30 years, 4; 30 to 40 years, 1; 40 to 50 years, 2; 50 to 60 years, 4; 60 to 70 years; 3; 70 to 80 years, 1; 80 to 90 years, 2.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, August 2, 1876.

Another sluggish day was experienced at the banks, with business continuing to work along in its usual easy and monotonous course. Perhaps a little more life can be reported during the last two days than at the close of last week. There was no improvement in the actual condition of affairs, but as customary around the opening of a new month there was something of an increase in the number of callers, and bank offices generally presented a more animated appearance. Still the transactions were only moderate, and as the activity exhibited was confined mainly to ordinary routine of counter matters, bank officers failed to make any essential change in the character or tone of their reports. Deposits being large, and idle capital rather abundant to expect the temporary demand developed by the monthly settlement day to improve the loan market, the feeling manifested all around was about the same as frequently described of late, and easy money, abundant exchange and moderate counter transactions continued as heretofore the leading features of the financial situation.

The local insurance companies frequently and justly say as an argument against patronizing foreign insurance companies, that all the money paid for premiums is carried out of the community and invested in other places, while their funds collected from premiums are loaned out to home borrowers.

The company that first realized the truth of this was the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, whose liberal course in making loans in this city has been rewarded by a large increase of its business.

We are glad to be able to state that the old Insurance Company of North America, of Philadelphia, has decided to make loans in this city and vicinity on real estate that is clear from other incumbrance, and worth double the amount of the loan, and at most reasonable rates of interest. The representative of the company, at No. 84 Fourth avenue, is now prepared to receive proposals for loans in any amounts.

Although some of the savings bank that have been getting high rates of interest on real estate loans may not like the appearance of long term loans for large amounts in our market, yet we welcome any movement that tends to cheaper money among our manufacturers.

—The money article of the London *Times* of July 10th contains the subjoined letter from the manager of the London agency of the Deutsche Bank, which has been written, as stated, at the special request and by authority of the German Government, contradicting certain statements which have appeared of late with reference to the silver question. It ought to do a good deal toward allaying the panic now prevailing in the silver market:

50 OLD BROAD STREET, E. C., }
LONDON, July 10. }

SIR: Various London papers having in recent articles on the silver question intimated that large quantities of the metal would or might be put on sale in this country, herewith take the liberty of addressing you a few lines in the hope that

in one paper the stock of German silver has been alluded to as consisting of many millions sterling, in another it has been asserted that the German Government intended to put ever so many millions of silver thalers into every month, while the English correspondent of some Frankfort paper has asserted that the German Government had attempted, but without success, to force sales in London at the recent reduced prices.

As representatives of the institution through whose medium the German sales in London and the East have been effected up to the present time, and at the special request and by authority of the German Government, I hereby beg to contradict most emphatically each and every one of the foregoing statements as being altogether erroneous, imaginary and contrary to the facts of the case.

The sales which have taken place represent, on an average, three millions sterling per annum only, which is the best proof of the moderation with which they have been accomplished. No suggested amounts have ever been fixed on the market; on the contrary, the Government have proceeded with so much discretion in the matter that much less has been realized than might have been done if the sales had been pressed, as they could easily have been.

Far from attempting sales at the recent very low quotations, all fresh offers which from would-be buyers have been refused, the Government seeing no necessity for submitting to such prices.

How much silver Germany may have to sell eventually cannot be known, but the withdrawal of the thaler currency is terminated. The estimates vary from eight to twenty millions sterling or more, according to the report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, appointed to investigate the subject, before which I was myself examined, and for the reasons why I am convinced that the latter amount is likely to prove the most correct, which I may now add that the Government heads of departments at the Imperial Chancellery have declared that the excess of annual surplus at seven and one-half millions sterling, or even less, if, as is quite possible, the new silver coinage should not absorb a larger extent than his per head of the population, it would cause that will lead to his apprehension. Mr. H. was somewhat bruised during the scuffle, but escaped without serious injury. Access was gained to the room of Mr. H. by means of a ladder, which the thief had carried from the barn and placed against the house at one of the windows.

I have, etc., for obedient servant.
[for the Deutsche Bank (Berlin), London Agency.]
G. PIERSCZ, Manager.

—The New York *Journal of Commerce* of Thursday says:

The California Supreme Court has just decided a point which, so far as the court and counsel could ascertain, after the most careful research, has never before been adjudicated, viz.: the right of an assignee of a bill of lading, without notice, to *goods previously shipped in transitu* by the vendor. The goods were sent from New York to San Francisco first, which failed before the arrived, but which held the bill of lading, assigned it to an assignee for value, before the advance thereon, about two hours after notice of stoppage *in transitu* had been served by the New York vendor upon the agent of the Central Pacific Railroad Company. The decision was that that Company, which had since rendered to Newhall, the assignee, the Supreme Court holding on appeal that, notwithstanding the notice, the title passed, the vendor's lien continues to be only a secret trust as to a person who, in the language of Mr. Bell (in the case of Lickbarrow vs. Mason), takes an assignment of a bill of lading "with out notice of such circumstances as render the bill of lading not fairly and honestly assignable. The law provides no method by which third persons can take the assignment with safety only after he has inquired of the vendor and of every carrier through whom the goods have come to come, whether a notice of stoppage in transitu has been given, it is quite certain that prudent parties will not risk their time or money on such securities, and a very important case of commercial transactions will be practically abrogated.

—The statement of the condition of the national banks of Philadelphia for the past week as presented by the Clearing House Monday, is a very favorable exhibit, considering the stagnation that exists in all departments, though the statement reflects that stagnation in the light demand for money, either for purposes of speculation or legitimate business. The changes show an increase of $207,471 in the item of money reserve, $86,994 in the national bank notes, and $443,088 in the deposits of other banks, or rather in the amount due to other banks. There was a decrease in the loans and discounts of $382,488, in the deposits of $68,787, in the specie of $68,747, in the circulation of $14,040 and in the amount due from banks of $222,12. The business between the banks showed a large falling off, the clearings having decreased $8,914,880 and the balances $1,737,995.

The price of silver bars in London has advanced to 56¾ pence per ounce. In the London *Economist* we take the following table showing the fluctuations in the price this year:

1875—yearly average	Pence.
January, between	56⅝ and 54⅛
February, between	55⅜ and 54⅛
March, between	54⅝ and 53¾
April, between	54 and 52¾
May, between	54 and 52
June, between	53 and 50

Last month the price at one time touched 47¾d, but just now the market appears to be on the upward move.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

August 2, 1876.	10:30 A.M.	11:30 A.M.	12:30 P.M.	1:30 P.M.	2:30 P.M.	3:00 P.M.
Gold	112	111⅝	111⅝	111⅝	111⅝	111⅝
U. S. 6s, 1881, coupon	....	....	....	....	....	....
5-20's, 1865	116	....	....	....	....	....
5-20's, 1865 (new)	116½	....	....	....	....	116⅝
5-20's, 1867, registered	117	....	....	....	....	117⅛
5-20's, 1867, coupon	119⅛	....	....	....	....	119⅛
5-20's, 1868, registered	119½	....	....	....	....	119½
5-20's, 1868	121	....	....	....	....	121
10-40's, registered	110	....	....	....	....	110
10-40's, coupons	118⅜	....	....	....	....	118⅜
New 5's, registered	117	....	....	....	....	117
New 5 per cents	117	....	....	....	....	117
Central Pacific 1st	69½	69⅝	69½	69½	69½	69½
Quicksilver	15	....	15	....	....	15
Pacific Mail	....	....	22⅝	....	....	22⅝
Tennessee 6s	135	....	....	....	....	....
Adams Express	117	....	116⅝	....	....	....
Wells-Fargo Express	53½	....	....	....	....	....
American Express	59⅜	....	59½	....	....	....
United States Ex	67½	....	....	....	....	....
New York Central	....	....	....	....	....	106⅛
Erie	15⅜	....	15½	....	....	15⅜
Michigan Central	40⅝	39½	40⅝	....	39⅝	39½
Michigan Southern	30½	30⅜	33	33⅛	33⅜	33
Illinois Central	....	....	94	....	....	....
Cleveland & Pitts	95	....	95	....	....	....
Chicago & Northwest	39	....	39	....	39	39
Do. preferred	....	....	62½	....	....	62⅜
Rock Island	....	....	102	....	102½	102½
St. Paul common	36	36	35⅝	35½	35⅝	36
Do. preferred	67⅜	67⅜	67	....	....	67
Wabash, common	....	....	9	....	....	....
Fort Wayne	....	....	102	....	....	102
Ohio & Mississippi	....	....	12½	....	12⅝	12
Union Pacific	....	....	....	....	....	....
Harlem	....	....	137	....	137	....
Hannibal & St. Jos	....	....	....	....	....	11½
Atlantic & Pac. pref.	....	....	....	....	....	2
Iron Mountain	....	....	17	....	20	....
L. S. & M. S.	....	....	....	....	34½	34½
Missouri Pacific	....	....	....	....	....	....
Missouri 6's	....	....	....	....	106	....

—The following is the report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

Stocks.	Bid.	Asked.	Sales.
Pennsylvania Central	....	....	50
Reading	....	....	44¼
United Cos. of N. J.	....	140	140
Fish, Tittle and Buf.	....	....	9¾
Lehigh Valley	56¾	57	56¾
Allegheny Valley	101	....	46
Central Transportation	....	....	46
Empire Transportation	....	....	50
P. C. & St. L. in. b.	....	....	83¾

[By Associated Press.]
Gold Closed at 111⅝.
MONEY.
NEW YORK, August 2.—Money closed easy at 2@3 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 3@4 per cent. Customs receipts $318,000. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $1,424,000. Clearings $18,000. Sterling weak at 487@489.

GOLD.

Gold opened and closed at 111⅝, with sales during the day at 112. Carrying rates 1@2 per cent. Loans also made flat.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds strong with an active demand. Railroad bonds generally firm. State securities dull. Stocks were irregular but in the main lower, with Michigan Central the chief feature of the decline. Western Union and St. Paul were strong and slightly higher, while Northwestern was steady. New Jersey Central continues considerably during the day but closed ¼ per cent. higher than the opening price. Borrowing rates for call loans to-day were 1@2½ per cent. Transactions 108,000 shares, of which 10,000 were Western Union, 18,000 Erie, 1,800 Lake Shore, 3,000 Ohio and Mississippi, 19,000 Michigan Central, 7,000 New Jersey Central and 6,000 Delaware, Lackawanna and Western. All the committees, bank officers failed to make any essential change in the character or tone of their reports. Deposits being large, and idle capital rather abundant to expect the temporary demand developed by the monthly settlement day to improve the loan market, the feeling manifested all around was about the same as frequently described of late, and easy money, abundant exchange and moderate counter transactions continued as heretofore the leading features of the financial situation.

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G. PIERSCZ, Manager.

—The New York *Journal of Commerce* of Thursday says:

The California Supreme Court has just decided a point which, so far as the court and counsel could ascertain, after the most careful research, has never before been adjudicated, viz.: the right of an assignee of a bill of lading, without notice, to *goods previously shipped in transitu* by the vendor. The goods were sent from New York to San Francisco first, which failed before the arrived, but which held the bill of lading, assigned it to an assignee for value, before the advance thereon, about two hours after notice of stoppage *in transitu* had been served by the New York vendor upon the agent of the Central Pacific Railroad Company. The decision was that that Company, which had since rendered to Newhall, the assignee, the Supreme Court holding on appeal that, notwithstanding the notice, the title passed, the vendor's lien continues to be only a secret trust as to a person who, in the language of Mr. Bell (in the case of Lickbarrow vs. Mason), takes an assignment of a bill of lading "with out notice of such circumstances as render the bill of lading not fairly and honestly assignable. The law provides no method by which third persons can take the assignment with safety only after he has inquired of the vendor and of every carrier through whom the goods have come to come, whether a notice of stoppage in transitu has been given, it is quite certain that prudent parties will not risk their time or money on such securities, and a very important case of commercial transactions will be practically abrogated.

—The statement of the condition of the national banks of Philadelphia for the past week as presented by the Clearing House Monday, is a very favorable exhibit, considering the stagnation that exists in all departments, though the statement reflects that stagnation in the light demand for money, either for purposes of speculation or legitimate business. The changes show an increase of $207,471 in the item of money reserve, $86,994 in the national bank notes, and $443,088 in the deposits of other banks, or rather in the amount due to other banks. There was a decrease in the loans and discounts of $382,488, in the deposits of $68,787, in the specie of $68,747, in the circulation of $14,040 and in the amount due from banks of $222,12. The business between the banks showed a large falling off, the clearings having decreased $8,914,880 and the balances $1,737,995.

The price of silver bars in London has advanced to 56¾ pence per ounce. In the London *Economist* we take the following table showing the fluctuations in the price this year:

1875—yearly average	Pence.
January, between	56⅝ and 54⅛
February, between	55⅜ and 54⅛
March, between	54⅝ and 53¾
April, between	54 and 52¾
May, between	54 and 52
June, between	53 and 50

Last month the price at one time touched 47¾d, but just now the market appears to be on the upward move.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

August 2, 1876.	10:30 A.M.	11:30 A.M.	12:30 P.M.	1:30 P.M.	2:30 P.M.	3:00 P.M.
Gold	112	111⅝	111⅝	111⅝	111⅝	111⅝
U. S. 6s, 1881, coupon	....	....	....	....	....	....
5-20's, 1865	116	....	....	....	....	....
5-20's, 1865 (new)	116½	....	....	....	....	116⅝
5-20's, 1867, registered	117	....	....	....	....	117⅛
5-20's, 1867, coupon	119⅛	....	....	....	....	119⅛
5-20's, 1868, registered	119½	....	....	....	....	119½
5-20's, 1868	121	....	....	....	....	121
10-40's, registered	110	....	....	....	....	110
10-40's, coupons	118⅜	....	....	....	....	118⅜
New 5's, registered	117	....	....	....	....	117
New 5 per cents	117	....	....	....	....	117
Central Pacific 1st	69½	69⅝	69½	69½	69½	69½
Quicksilver	15	....	15	....	....	15
Pacific Mail	....	....	22⅝	....	....	22⅝
Tennessee 6s	135	....	....	....	....	....
Adams Express	117	....	116⅝	....	....	....
Wells-Fargo Express	53½	....	....	....	....	....
American Express	59⅜	....	59½	....	....	....
United States Ex	67½	....	....	....	....	....
New York Central	....	....	....	....	....	106⅛
Erie	15⅜	....	15½	....	....	15⅜
Michigan Central	40⅝	39½	40⅝	....	39⅝	39½
Michigan Southern	30½	30⅜	33	33⅛	33⅜	33
Illinois Central	....	....	94	....	....	....
Cleveland & Pitts	95	....	95	....	....	....
Chicago & Northwest	39	....	39	....	39	39
Do. preferred	....	....	62½	....	....	62⅜
Rock Island	....	....	102	....	102½	102½
St. Paul common	36	36	35⅝	35½	35⅝	36
Do. preferred	67⅜	67⅜	67	....	....	67
Wabash, common	....	....	9	....	....	....
Fort Wayne	....	....	102	....	....	102
Ohio & Mississippi	....	....	12½	....	12⅝	12
Union Pacific	....	....	....	....	....

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 1876.

THE foreign exports from Philadelphia last week amounted to $705,198.

THE Lincoville (Crawford county) *Leader* has led itself into line and hoisted the Republican ticket.

THERE will be no change in the tariff or tax rates at this session, no matter what the House may do with its Internal Revenue bill.

HENDRICKS voted for the land grant to the Northern Pacific road, and made a speech in its favor; and now he joins in denouncing his own act.

THE Chicago *Times* makes a wry face over the nomination of STEWARD for Governor by the Democrats of Illinois; but after swallowing HENDRICKS it can swallow anything.

NEVER, since the Siamese Twins first toted BARNUM around this country for a curiosity, was there on exhibition so much humbug for so little money as the unique "reform" spectacle of TILDEN and HENDRICKS.

THE dry goods importations keep up well notwithstanding the hard times. The entries at New York last week amounted to $2,038,143. The total imports of dry goods at that port since January first were, $49,153,743.

NICHOLS, the Democratic candidate for Governor of Louisiana, is an earnest advocate of TILDEN and "reform." He commanded a Louisiana brigade during the rebellion and lost an arm and a leg in the Confederate service.

THE New York *Tribune* says, "Business men find encouragement in the prospect of a good fall trade. The dry goods and commission houses report early sales and a hopeful outlook. Low freights, it is thought, will bring greater custom."

THAT story of disaster to General CROOK's force was false. Such a disaster was improbable in itself, and the story of its occurrence came in a circuitous way and with a degree of minuteness which added to the improbability of its truth.

THE nominee of the Democracy of Illinois is not a TILDEN man. He is pledged to PETER COOPER, and is the nominee, also, of the "Greenback" party. His nomination is a direct blow at TILDEN, and places the party in that State in direct opposition to the St. Louis platform.

THE Troy *Times* states that a citizen of Bennington, Vermont, is about to begin a suit in the United States Court against the town of Berlin to recover the value of $14,500, the amount of two bonds held by him issued on account of the Harlem Extension Railroad. TILDEN was engaged in the swindling operations which resulted in the imposition of this fraud upon the farmers of Berlin.

THE ringing call to the soldiers and sailors who fought for the Stars and stripes through the rebellion, rouses the ire of the Democratic press. "Trotting out the old nonsense" the old humbug dodge," and other kindred slurs are flung at the boys in Blue. Go on, gentlemen, we shall see how much humbug there is in honest loyalty next November.

IF *he* had been Governor of South Carolina, Governor WALKER, of Virginia, says, some of those Hamburg rioters "would have felt hemp in a mighty short time." But the hemp would have been applied, in that case, to colored throats, and not to the throats of the white murderers. The Governor of Virginia is convinced that the lamb had no business to rile the water the wolf was drinking.

THE following official statement of the expenditures of the Government from 1869 to 1875 inclusive, shows the utter falsity of the Democratic charge that the Administration is plunging deeper and deeper into extravagance each successive year: In 1869, $190,496,354 95; in 1870, $164,421,507 15; in 1871, $157,583,827 58; in 1872, $176,201,856 19; in 1873, $180,488,636 90; in 1874, $194,118,985, and in 1875, $171,529,848 27.

THE new Democratic nominee for Governor in Illinois is described by the Chicago *Journal* as "this scathing, ripping, tearing old vulgarian." It adds that "should he be elected, the executive office at Springfield would be kept in one constant glow of blue blazes by his reckless profanity, and its atmosphere would be kept odorous with the sulphurous fumes of his dire cursings. He is the most profane and ill-mannered man in the State." Still, he will get the Democratic vote.

ALL the Democratic estimates of the result of the Presidential election, in detail, put down Pennsylvania and Ohio as both certain for HAYES. They have no idea of carrying either, and although they will go through the motions of a fight, in both, they will do so in a hopeless and utterly dispirited way. They will concentrate their efforts upon the doubtful States, and Pennsylvania and Ohio are not, in their opinion, to be classed in that category.

TO-MORROW the great "reform" Democratic candidate for the Presidency will be obliged to answer, in court, as defendant, the charge of having been the Mephistopheles of a swindle by which hundreds of thousands of dollars were filched from a Western railway company. Nor can his friends say that it is a piece of political persecution, for the proceedings were instituted far in advance and entirely independent of his nomination.

THE Democratic House of Representatives have refused to allow $6,000 to be appropriated for the examination of the rebel archives, although such examination has already saved the Government many millions of dollars by furnishing evidence to defeat improper claims. This is a specimen of their economy; refusing to keep the hands of disloyalists, as well as others who attempt to get what is not their own, out of the public treasury.

THE following special from Lynchburg, Va., to the Washington *Republican*, may be cited as conclusive evidence that the Southern whites have been completely reconstructed, and now love the flag with an undying affection:

Last night some person or persons unknown tore down the stars and stripes from over the postoffice, where it was hung the 4th of July last and has remained ever since. It was an army bunting flag, borrowed from the observer of the signal service here, and had on it 38 stars, no emblem, or ensign on or about it—simply the flag of our country.

THERE is a very sudden and unexpected stir in the silk market. The price of raw silk has jumped up with a bound over fifty per cent., and dealers to reship large quantities to Europe have been accordingly mobbed over in many instances, while consignees of importations have received stringent instructions to hold on to their goods and not to sell unless at a considerable advance. The crop in the producing districts in Europe has been about one-half its usual yield this year, while in China it has been very far below the average.

THE Austin (Texas) *Statesman*, a Democratic paper, explains how Mississippi was carried by the Democrats. It acknowledges that there is a large Republican majority in the State, and says:

In Mississippi money was poured out like water, and the whites were determined to carry the election at any cost. Some planters in Mississippi gave one-half of the proceeds of their cotton crop to the election fund. There was no holding back.

This money was used, not for bribery, but for purposes of intimidation; and it was by the systematic reign of terror thus brought about that the Democrats succeeded in frightening the colored men away from the polls.

TILDEN and HENDRICKS are in joint conference at Saratoga on the inflation split and the Hamburg unpleasantness. Around these luminaries there splutter and fizz a lot of lesser lights, conspicuous among whom are AUGUSTUS SCHELL, ALLAN C. BEACH, ex-Attorney General FRATT and FERNANDO WOOD, all of whom signed a protest to the St. Louis Convention declaring TILDEN a man unfit to be nominated, and alleging that "he cannot carry his own State of the country." It is a funny crowd altogether. TILDEN and HENDRICKS are as congenial as oil and water, and the rest are quite as harmonious. The result of the conference will, is stated, be given to the public to-day. Of course it will be an attempt to throw dust in the eyes of the people, and blind them to the real issues of the canvass.

EFFECT OF RAILROAD CHARGES UPON THE VALUE OF LANDS.

An Eastern gentleman has a theory that henceforward the farming lands of Pennsylvania, and particularly those of the eastern part of the State, will decline in value. He bases this upon two facts: first, that lands at their present value will not pay a fair rate of interest upon the investment; and, second, that the lands of the great West, owing to the greater facilities now existing for transportation, are now brought into direct competition with lands nearer the Eastern markets. Heretofore the cost of transportation has been so great that the Eastern farmer has had a direct advantage over the Western; but the competition of the railroads has practically abolished this advantage.

The gentleman alluded to cites as a reason for this conclusion that wheat is now carried from Chicago to Philadelphia for eighteen cents a bushel; while the cost of delivering a Lebanon county bushel of wheat at the same destination is seventeen cents. Lebanon is only eighty miles from Philadelphia, and Chicago is over 800 miles; yet the cost of delivery is nearly the same in both cases.

But it is to be borne in mind that the eighteen cents charged from Chicago is merely the railroad charge, while the seventeen cents covers the entire cost from the barn in Lebanon county to the elevator in Philadelphia. The Western farmer has to pay, in addition, the cost of transportation from his barn to the railroad; the railroad charge from the place of shipment to Chicago, and the cost of handling at Chicago. These local expenses will probably bring the cost up to twenty-five or thirty cents a bushel to Philadelphia.

If eighteen cents were the *permanent* rate from Chicago, the Western farmer would certainly have a great advantage over his Eastern competitors; but as it is not, and is not likely to be, it is not warrantable to base a conclusion upon it, so far as it may be taken into account in determining the value of Eastern lands. The present low rate of freights from the West is an exception to the general rate. The railroad managers seem all to have eaten of the insane root, and are cutting each other's throats by carrying freights at a rate far below the actual cost of transportation. Why they should continue this losing game, and go on, day by day, in using up their capital in a useless competition with each other, no one can tell, not even they themselves. One does it and the others follow, and that is the only excuse offered for it. Certain it is that, at the very first chance, they will come to a mutual understanding to stop it; and then, after months of quiet trade at remunerative rates, some one of them will imagine that the others are acting in bad faith, and straightway the work of throat-cutting will begin again.

The present low rate, therefore, is not a fair basis of comparison. The *average* rate is a safer basis, and the only one from which a conclusion can be logically drawn. What figures would indicate this rate we cannot now say; but we are sure that, *relatively*, they will be found to be largely in favor of the Western farmer. The latter has a standing quarrel, it is true, with the railroads; but it is only with his *local* roads, and never with the through roads that carry his grain from the Western market, at Chicago or St. Louis, to the seaboard. It is the roads leading from his farm to Chicago or St. Louis that oppress him, and are the roads from those cities to the inward. Their rates, even at the highest, are always low; and presuming that the Western farmers will succeed, in the long run, in bringing their local roads to terms, it is safe to conclude that the relative cost of transporting wheat and corn from the West to the seaboard and from such contiguous counties as Berks, Lebanon and Lancaster to Philadelphia will be largely in favor of the West.

There are but two ways out of this difficulty. The first is to be found in lower local rates from the counties nearest to market, and the second, falling in the first, in a submission to a lowering in the value of farming lands. It is not to be supposed that the present holders of lands will readily agree to the latter remedy; and it is as certain as fate that an earnest effort will be made to force a reduction in local rates.

To a mere outsider, there can no good reason be given for the high local rates now charged on near-at-home freights and the low rates charged on the far-away freights. Granting, for the sake of the argument, that it is impossible for the roads to carry the same kind of freights at the same proportionate rates for short as for long distances, the discrepancy between the two, now and for a long time existing, cannot be justified. The Eastern farmer will make allowances for the differences in the actual cost of the two to the railroads, but he has a right to insist that he shall not be crowded out of his own natural market by competitors more than 800 miles away. *He* pays one hundred to three hundred dollars an acre for his land, and the Western man pays only from ten to thirty; and he is entitled to the advantage of his nearness to market. It does not cost the railroad near as much to carry a bushel of wheat from Lebanon as from Chicago to Philadelphia; and common fairness requires that the Eastern farmer should not be taxed for the benefit of the Western.

That this general principle is capable of a much wider application than we have here given it, is conceded; and the argument is as good when applied to manufactured wares or raw material as to farm products; but we desired merely to show the effect of this freight system upon the value of farming lands, and have not room, in this article, to follow out the wider range of discussion which the subject suggests.

THE PRESIDENTIAL CONTEST.

Nothing like enthusiasm has yet been shown, in any direction, for the St. Louis ticket. The ratification meetings have uniformly turned out "flat, stale and unprofitable." The nominations fell like a wet blanket upon the entire party, and have struck a cold chill into its very heart. No one sincerely wanted the nomination of TILDEN, except the young political puppies in immediate attendance upon him; and while the Western inflationists would have been immensely gratified by the nomination of HENDRICKS for the first place, they think his nomination for Vice President was a poor inducement for their support of TILDEN. They submit because they cannot help it, and the Eastern hard money men yield, with as poor a grace, to the adoption of a soft money candidate for the second place. These latter put up with TILDEN, because he was the best they could get; but, while disgusted with him, they look with positive contempt upon the doubting THOMAS, of Indiana.

This general lack of enthusiasm is accounted for by the fact that it is impossible to rouse men to ardor and zeal with a purchased nomination. Bad as the Democratic party is, and tolerant, as it always has been, of bad men and questionable measures, it cannot be expected to warm up into ecstasy over a result brought about, under its very eyes, by the lavish use of money. When a gambler and bully like MORRISSEY thrusts himself into the lead, and flourishes his money with ostentatious openness, it is not to be supposed that the men in the background will kindle into a flame of jubilation. There is still left to the party a sense of shame and a consciousness of outward propriety; and it is something to its credit that it instinctively grew silent before this shameful manifestation, and slunk away from it disheartened and dispirited. It is barely possible that some remnants of the old enthusiasm may yet be awakened into life; but evidently TILDEN and HENDRICKS are as heavy a load to carry as were GREELEY and GRATZ BROWN.

The one thing left for it to do is to bawl away, without heart or encouragement, with the new and awkward party cry of "Reform." There is not one Democrat in a thousand who really wants any reform, or who knows what is included in that vaguely general term. The most of them imagine that it begins and ends in a general turn-out of all those now in office, if they win, and that is what they are after; by no means anything beyond that, they neither know nor comprehend it. The leaders, of course, intend that outsiders should take it to mean a great deal more; but those who know or can penetrate their real purpose, can see that they have no reform in view except the displacement of the men now in office.

There were many disgusting crimes committed in France, during the Revolution of 1793, in the sacred name of "Liberty," and the bad men in the Democratic party intend to conceal their political villainies under the cry of "Reform." In old Dr. JOHNSON's time, the common resort of men under political suspicion in England was "Patriotism," which led that cynic to remark that "Patriotism was the last refuge of scoundrels." He meant the sham sort of patriotism, of course, and in like manner his American namesake, ANDY JOHNSON, characterized the American pretenders of love for the Constitution, during the war, as traitors. "Whenever," said he, "you hear a man prating about the Constitution, *spot him*: he is a traitor." There was the same tendency, during our civil war, in the traitors of the North to cling fast to the Constitution as an object of love and veneration, as there was among the scoundrels in Dr. JOHNSON's time, to take refuge in "patriotism;" and the corrupt men in the Democratic party now seek, from a like impulse, to hide their nefarious schemes behind the plausible cry of "reform." Whenever a bad man has exhausted all his other resources, he invariably falls back upon the highest toned remedy to be current for public evils. "Reform" is the popular need, now, and he who has helped to make things bad, drops in with the popular humor, and claims to take the lead where, under any other circumstances, he would be ashamed to follow.

When MORRISSEY and KELLY, TILDEN and HENDRICKS, and the other corrupt leaders of the Democracy, seize hold of the "reform" cry, we know what it means. It means that all their political resources have been exhausted, and that they hope to bamboozle the people into intrusting the work of "reform" to the base hands of the corrupt Tammany gang. The people, fortunately, are not such fools. They can see through the thin disguise of these deceivers, and will not intrust a good work to the hands of its enemies.

But, as the Democratic leaders have no other resource, they will stick to this "reform" dodge, although convinced that its insincerity has been fully detected and exposed. They will adhere to it because it is all that is left to them, and cheek is all-powerful, in their estimation.

Still, while they will make extensive use of it, they will confine their efforts, in the North, to a desperate attempt to carry Indiana, New Jersey, New York and Connecticut, and they will rely more upon money and mendacity to carry them through than upon their merits as "reformers." They are already beginning to realize that there is no enthusiasm for TILDEN, and that "reform" is not the winning card they thought it to be; and hence, depending upon intimidation and the power of mob violence to carry the South, they will use their means in four, only, of the Northern States, and these are the States we have named.

Thus is the present shape of the canvass, and it shows how little real hope of success they entertain. They are making a desperate venture, with everything apparently against them, and the sole hope of success lies in their chance of finding purchasable material and in their ability to deceive the public with dishonest pretences.

THE SOUTHERN WHIGS.

The death of Senator CAPERTON, of West Virginia, has recalled attention to the anomalous political position of the old Whigs of the Southern States. Mr. CAPERTON was one of these; and although he was nominally a Democrat, and voted with the party that sent him to the Senate, he never could and he never did forget that he had been a Whig, and that he was entirely out of place in the Democratic party. He had, really, no sympathy with the ultra States rights Democrats, and his personal associations in the Senate were all with the men who, prior to 1854, made war upon the Democratic theories of government.

While slavery lasted, these Southern Whigs were bound to it, hand and foot. In 1848 they rallied successfully to the support of TAYLOR against CASS; but when, after TAYLOR's accession, the question of the admission of California as a free State brought up the whole question as to whether the free States or the slave should obtain a preponderance in the Union, the faith of many a Southern Whig began to waver when fidelity to slavery and fidelity to the Whig party came into conflict; and in 1852, when that gallant old warrior, WINFIELD SCOTT, was put forward as the Whig candidate, all the Southern Whig States forsook him except Kentucky and Tennessee. This was practically the end of the Whig party; and the Southern Whigs having no choice but Democracy and Republicanism, obeyed their pro-slavery instincts and became absorbed in the Democratic ranks.

When the war broke out, many of these old Whigs were averse to secession and disunion. The men who had fought CALHOUN and NULLIFICATION in 1832 and stood by WEBSTER in hurling denunciation upon all who would lay violent hands upon the Union, hesitated and faltered to follow the lead of JEFF. DAVIS and the States rights men of 1861. The Whigs were not States rights men; they did not believe in secession as a remedy for any grievance, and they had an idolatrous devotion to the Union which HENRY CLAY, DANIEL WEBSTER and JOHN J. CRITTENDEN had sanctified by their advocacy. But they had already been defiled by the touch of Democratic pitch, the outcry around them was too loud to be successfully resisted, and so they quietly permitted themselves to be swept away by the secession torrent.

When the war was over, the pride of such of the Whigs as were left would not permit them to abandon a political association with the men with whom they had passed through the irritating ordeals of a civil conflict. They sullenly submitted to be called and considered as Democrats; and now there is barely a trace of the line that separated them only a quarter of a century ago. Still, there is a perceptible trace of it; and the time is fast coming when the shattered remnants of the old Whig race will rise up and assert the doctrines of CLAY and WEBSTER against that supreme political folly which persists in treating the States as supreme and the Federal Government as a mere confederation held together by a rope of sand. *That* was not the Union they had learned to love and cherish; and as the Republican party is now the only supporter of the grand doctrine that the United States are a nation, and not a mere helpless, useless confederacy, it is not unreasonable to hope that many of these remnants of an old political organization will find a more congenial home for themselves in the Republican than they have ever enjoyed in the Democratic party. Slavery has vanished; and as the Republican party has maintained successfully the integrity of the Union, the Southern devotees of that Union have no true resting place except with those who stood by it in its hours of peril.

Senator CAPERTON had too keen a sense of honor to act outside of the party which elected him to the Senate; but we are assured that he felt much more at home socially and otherwise with his Republican than with his Democratic friends. His Whig instincts would rise up in him, in spite of all his efforts to keep them down; and we are confident that there are many of his former political associates, scattered over the Southern States, who are longing for a good opportunity to get away from the galling bondage that has bound them to a party with which they have no political sympathy.

PLAINNESS AND OSTENTATION.

The Louisville *Courier-Journal*, whose editor presided at the St. Louis Convention and may therefore be considered as privileged to speak for his party, sneers at the Republican candidate for President because he is a plain, unassuming man, and although rich enough in this world's goods to spend his money lavishly, sets a good example to the nation by living in a simple and unostentatious way. The Democratic mouthpiece charges upon Governor HAYES that he and his family "walk to church every Sunday;" "that he lives very plainly at home;" "that he is not likely to bankrupt himself by extravagant living either at home or abroad;" and draws the deduction that he is a miser, and would act very differently if he "had a chance to live at somebody else's expense." In the same paper we find republished a letter from the correspondent of an Eastern paper in which it is stated that DOM PEDRO, when Governor TILDEN's home was pointed out to him, remarked that "he (TILDEN) was the only official who seemed to have a palace worthy of him." The same correspondent informs us that TILDEN keeps twelve servants; that his cook was formerly in the service of DOM PEDRO; that he keeps eight horses, and is *very* graceful on horse-back; that he maintains seven carriages, and is ready at any time to turn out a four-in-hand, and that he spends $15,000 a year to keep up this establishment. The advantage, therefore, in the eyes of the *Courier-Journal*, is all on the side of the man who lives like a prince, and all against the candidate who leads a life of republican simplicity.

That Southern nabobs and spendthrifts should prefer the example of the Democratic snob to that of the Republican citizen is not at all wonderful. They like to see personal extravagance and a lavish style of expenditure. The man they admire may pretend to be a great "reformer;" that kind of claptrap is necessary to split the ears of the groundlings; but he must be able to live in a princely style and squander his money without regard to expense. That, however, is not what the *people* want. They do not expect the President of their choice to be a four-in-hand or seven carriage man, and they have no interest in the name of his cook. They prefer the style of JEFFERSON, who rode on horse-back to Washington to be inaugurated and tied his horse to the fence until after that little ceremony was completed, to the snobbish four-in-hand style of TILDEN, who boasts that he employs the ex-cook of an Emperor and has the best Johannisberger in America in his wine vaults.

The great evil of Washington society has been and is the ostentatious style of living practiced there, and the extravagant parade of wealth, both indoors and out. This magnificence of show on the part of a few who are able to afford it has led many, who are *not* able, into a ruinous imitation of it, until the whole atmosphere of the capital has grown depraved and utterly destructive of republican simplicity. In this unhealthy and demoralizing atmosphere the Democrats would send TILDEN, not to cure it by a wiser example, but to make it more and more unwholesome by an extravagance which every one would feel tempted to follow. The President gives tone to the community around him; and TILDEN, with his four-in-hand, his seven carriages and eight horses, and his aristocratic cook and a wine cellar of unexceptionable value, would infect the town with a desire to follow in his wake. Such a perilous addition would add fuel to the flame and make Washington society more dangerous than ever.

What is wanted at Washington is a return to the old-time simplicity that ruled in the days of JEFFERSON. General HAYES, if elected President, will carry with him the simple habits that are sneered at by the Democratic journals, and will thus do more for genuine "reform" than will ever come from the crowd of Democrats who are caught with the glitter and tinsel of the millionaire TILDEN. He will awaken the capital from its dazed nightmare of extravagance, pomp and show, and by the Presidential example will rebuke the wild parade of shoddy wealth and bring a healthful atmosphere to replace the heated and impure one that has so long prevailed.

The strongest argument, in our opinion, in favor of HAYES' election, is the contrast drawn between him and TILDEN by the *Courier-Journal*. Nothing is so much needed as a reformation of the social extravagance of the capital, and a truly republican President, who can set the pattern of plainness and simplicity, is just the man to bring that reform about. Prodigality is the mother of corruption; and the President who is not ashamed to walk to church is much better qualified to root it out than he who carries the glitter of his badly-earned millions about with him and empts the unwary to crime in the vain effort to imitate his profusion and flaunting wastefulness.

PROTECTION OF WITNESSES.

Judge EMMONS, of the United States District Court for the Southern district of Ohio, has come to the rescue of witnesses, and decided, as a point of law, that attorneys have no right to badger and abuse them. If all the courts of the country would unite in this humane decision, and enforce it, there would be a revolution in legal practice. As things now stand, a witness is a man who has no rights a lawyer is bound to respect. Outside of the court room he may be a very decent man and an exemplary member of society; but as soon as he enters the witness-box he becomes an outlaw. Every reckless attorney feels himself at liberty to provoke him by personal questions, assail his integrity and impugn his veracity, as well as to twist his testimony into the most outrageous shapes and browbeat him by the vilest of mean insinuations. In many criminal cases, it would seem to the looker-on as if the witness was the really guilty man and not the prisoner at the bar.

There are, of course, many lawyers who would scorn to descend to this low and villainous treatment. We are not speaking of them, but of those lawyers who make this course a specialty.

It is perfectly legitimate, we admit, to attack the character of a witness for veracity, where his character is really bad, and to show that he is unworthy of belief, if there is evidence to prove it; but the practice, generally, is to omit these necessary preliminaries, and pitch into a witness without regard to such trifling matters as proof. In all such cases the Court should intervene in behalf of the witness. A man is to be believed until his veracity is successfully attacked, and he abuse of a witness whose veracity is unassailed is simply a professional dodge to draw attention away from the client to the witness. Men, of course, must expect to undergo a searching examination when called as witnesses. The purpose of such examinations is to elicit all the facts bearing on the case in hand, and there is nothing pleasant, especially to people who are keenly sensitive and of shrinking habits, in a rigid cross-examination; but there is no need to add to this unpleasantness the overbearing and insulting manner which characterizes those members of the bar who sacrifice decency and propriety, in the examination of witnesses, in order to save their clients.

We hope, therefore, that other judges will follow the example of Judge EMMONS, and effectually protect the witnesses who are brought before them from the browbeating and personal insinuations to which they are sometimes subjected.

The following table of national losses by the defalcation of national officers has been compiled from a report made by the Treasury Department to the Senate, in answer to a resolution of that body, asking for a list of national defaulters since the days of JACKSON:

	Disbursem'ts.	Losses.	Loss on $1,000.
Jackson.....	$ 110,398,325 19	$ 1,162,786 61	$10 53
VanBuren...	137,094,438 34	2,899,653 81	21 15
Harrison & T	109,187,491 24	1,133,242 40	10 37
Polk.....	205,194,709 57	1,712,169 82	8 34
Taylor & Fillmore..	194,370,492 13	1,485,192 68	7 64
Pierce.....	286,638,875 65	1,674,852 64	5 86
Buchanan...	328,183,288 39	2,292,825 52	6 98
Lincoln.....	4,967,497,921 22	6,599,022 91	1 41
Johnson.....	2,891,576,259 10	1,899,644 17	48
Grant.....	2,601,158,569 90	1,049,202 48	40
Total.....	1,460,699,819 31	370,383 81	25
Total.....	$13,936,870,072 03	$22,266,982 28	$ 1 59
Jan. 1, 1834, to June 30, 1861.....	1,369,977,502 52	12,361,722 91	9 02
July 1, 1861, to June 30, 1875.....	12,566,892,569 53	9,905,205 37	78

It will be seen by this table, that during the Democratic administrations of JACKSON, VAN BUREN, POLK, PIERCE and BUCHANAN, more money was stolen than under the Republican administration of GRANT, and that even JOHNSON's administration rises into respectability by the side of such Democratic magnates as VAN BUREN and BUCHANAN, while POLK and PIERCE were about on a level with him.

This comparison is certainly very creditable to the Republican administration of the last seven years. Even JACKSON lost more, during his first four years, than GRANT lost during the first four; and in the last three years, during which it is alleged that the great flood of corruption has set in, the loss has been much less than half of the total losses of any preceding administration.

The losses during the administration of LINCOLN, from 1861 to 1865, cover the active period of the war, and embrace the wastages and shortcomings of the many disbursing officers of the army. These losses were not stealings, in any sense, but were simply the amounts which were lost by disbursing officers through capture and otherwise, and which they were unable to account for. The wastage of war is not to be taken into account in ascertaining the defalcations that grow up under civil administration.

The reader will thus see that dishonesty in office was as prevalent under JACKSON as under GRANT, and was larger in 1833 than in 1876. The "good old time" was no exception to the general rule, and defalcations were even more numerous under Democratic than under Republican administrations. The population of the country during JACKSON's and VAN BUREN's time was hardly half what it is now, yet the stealing went on, then, in a ratio much greater than in these latter days.

The true test of such defalcations is the percentage of the money lost to the money disbursed. By this test JACKSON lost ten dollars where GRANT has lost but thirty-three cents, and LINCOLN $1 40; VAN BUREN lost twenty-one dollars to less than one dollar under the Republican Presidents since 1861, and the losses under the other Democratic Presidents ranged from six to ten dollars to less than one under Republican Presidents. The general average stands at $9 02 under the Democrats, to seventy-eight cents under the Republicans. The public money, therefore, is decidedly safer in Republican than in Democratic hands; and the surest way to bring about a relapse into the old-time dishonesty is to put the Democrats into power again.

THERE is perhaps no speculation in the country, except operating in stocks, so thoroughly organized as that in grain. With headquarters in Chicago, the system of the grain forestallers extends to every part of the civilized world, either producing or consuming the article handled. The entire crop of the greatest grain-growing nations are sometimes controlled by them, the consumer being obliged to pay such prices as they demand, while, on the other hand, the producer is compelled to accept whatever they please to pay. This indicates the enormous influence of speculation over the movement of breadstuff staples. One of the means employed in advancing or depressing prices is the manufacture and dissemination of news calculated to serve the purpose in hand. Crop reports from grain growing regions anywhere between Minnesota and the shores of the Baltic, war rumors and peace rumors, duly transmitted by cable, trade prospects, statements of sales, etc., forwarded as news, and difficult to distinguish from genuine dispatches, are constantly used to promote the purposes of speculation. We must take, therefore, with critical care the intimations now put forth that the recent hot weather has seriously injured the new wheat now in store. The following special to the New York *Times* gives the most definite information from Chicago:

Considerable uneasiness has been developed in grain circles by the general circulation of rumors by those connected with the "bear" side of the market, that in several of the large elevators the wheat was spoiling, and that it had been offered within the past two or three days to shippers, and refused. It was also claimed that all the wheat now here is unsound, and that with a short period of sweaty weather it will be impossible for elevator men to save their property. As might be expected, these stories created something of a stir, and though on investigation it was ascertained there was no cause for alarm, holders exhibited an urgent desire to sell, and prices suffered a large decline in consequence. The matter was promptly brought to the notice of President Beasley, of the Board of Trade, who, at the request of a number of leading merchants, selected a committee to canvass the different elevators, examine the grain and report the actual condition of affairs at once. On last Saturday the result of wheat in local elevators was 1,710,012 bushels. The wheat at present arriving in New York hot and out of condition consists mainly of Chicago and Milwaukee No. 3 and rejected mixed and direct country consignments. Elevator men claim that wheat here is all right.

THE following tabular exhibit, compiled by the *Public*, of the movement of grain to the Atlantic ports since the beginning of the railroad war, shows to what extent the grain receipts of each city mentioned have increased or decreased, according to latest reports; they give, first, the amount of corn received by each city in each period, with the percentage of the whole quantity which each received, and second, a similar comparison of receipts of all grain, flour being included as wheat, but for convenience at the rate of five bushels to the barrel:

Corn receipts.	April 15 to June 17		June 17 to July 15.	
New York.....	4,881,388	26.9	2,881,045	32.6
Philadelphia...	5,720,700	31.9	1,926,300	21.8
Baltimore.....	3,736,000	20.3	2,370,000	26.9
Boston.....	2,008,415	11.1	902,082	10.5
Montreal.....	562,500	3.1	645,532	7.3
Portland.....	132,900	.7	87,600	1.0
Total.....	18,126,043	100.0	8,848,459	100.0
All grain rec'ts.	April 15 to June 17.		June 17 to July 15	
New York.....	16,026,971	45.5	10,627,871	36.0
Philadelphia...	8,762,770	20.0	2,870,450	19.5
Baltimore.....	6,383,200	14.8	2,834,110	13.3
Boston.....	1,826,200	11.1	1,826,200	11.8
Montreal.....	3,836,545	8.7	2,917,793	13.7
Portland.....	894,180	1.9	198,328	.9
Total.....	43,798,095	100.0	21,284,588	100.0

According to this exhibit, Philadelphia has lost quite largely, alike in corn and grain. That city handled nearly 32 per cent. of the corn received at all Atlantic ports during two months of the railway war, and 20 per cent. of all grain; while during the last month it has handled but 22 per cent. of the corn, and 13½ per cent. of the grain. The loss has been nearly one-third of the corn, and more than one-third of the grain. The only city besides New York which has gained largely, is Montreal, whose receipts have advanced from 3 to 7½ per cent. in corn, and from less than 9 to nearly 14 per cent. of grain. The *Public* adds:

"The receipts of the week ending July 15, were of all grain, Philadelphia 645,850 bushels, Baltimore 676,750, Montreal 505,426, Boston 304,365, Portland 71,700, and New York 3,497,653 bushels; total, 2,597,954; of which New York received 62.5 per centum, Philadelphia 11.6 per centum, Baltimore 10.3 per centum, Montreal 9.0 per centum, Boston 5.4 per centum, and Portland 1.3 per centum. These proportions, compared with the first week in July of the war, show a surprising change. The corn receipts of that week were at New York over 54 per centum, at Baltimore about 19 per centum, at Philadelphia 17 per centum, at Boston 6 per centum, at Montreal less than 2 per centum, and at Portland about the same."

IS THERE no remedy against the greed of men who persist in building four-story factories, of inflammable materials, without providing any means of escape therefrom, in case of sudden fire? Is human life of so little value that no precautions are taken against the constant danger from such causes? The recent fire in a shoddy mill near Philadelphia is a case in point. Two lives were lost by this fire, solely through the neglect of the proprietor to provide adequate means of escape from danger, in cases of fire. The Philadelphia *Inquirer* says:

The mill covered an area of 150 by 50 feet, and was four stories high. The fire broke out in the picker room, where most mill fires originate, and blazed up with such intensity as to cut off retreat from a large number of women employed in the stories above. The inference is perfectly plain that the ways of retreat from fire were inadequate. Had they not been no loss of life would have resulted. There will be, of course, an inquest by the Coroner upon the bodies of the unfortunate women who perished, and the inquiry should be thorough, for if any one by carelessness to provide proper and plenty of ways of escape from buildings which have been frequently on fire is responsible for these sinful deaths, the responsibility should be fixed upon him. We urge this, not as a matter of vindictiveness for the dead, but for the security of all mill hands, who in this community, are so many. There is not a single factory within the city's limits or elsewhere here, which should not be provided with iron fire escapes going down the outside, for the ways of escapes from the inside are liable always in case of fire to be suddenly cut off.

We do not know who the owner of this mill was; but he is clearly as responsible for the death of the two victims of his carelessness as if he had laid violent hands upon them. There was no malice in the negligence which sacrificed these lives, and hence the result lacks the essential elements of murder; but the blood of two innocent people is upon his hands nevertheless. He could have saved these two lives, by taking the proper precaution, and he did not; and if he is not liable to punishment for such a wilful neglect of duty to his employees, our laws are shamefully defective in that particular.

THE Democrats seem very unfortunate in the officials they elect. The House of Representatives at Washington has had to dismiss over half a dozen of the employees, some for dishonesty, others for disloyalty and one or two for absolute lack of brains; the people of Washington county, Wisconsin, are mourning over the enforced absence of their County Treasurer, a delegate to the St. Louis Convention, who is short $50,000 in his accounts; the Democrats of St. Louis are inconsolable over the disappearance of their County Auditor, who has defaulted for a hundred thousand or so, and the following dispatch from Columbus points out a new trouble:

During the political reaction which prevailed two years ago, the elected Democratic Secretary of the State, School Commissioner and other officers. The choice does not seem to have been fortunate. The annual report of the Democratic Secretary, lately published, is found to be full of statistical blunders, rendering it almost useless. Heretofore the document has been a model of accuracy, and has been generally valued for its statistical information. The Democratic School Commissioner is also in trouble. Specific charges against him of a scandalous nature were published several days ago, and have not yet been denied, though frequently repeated. Similar charges some months ago forced the resignation of a Democratic Superintendent of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home.

It may be impudent in us to make the suggestion, but then the Democracy are not bound to take our advice, and we give it to them in good faith, that it would be much wiser in the party to reform *itself*, before it undertakes to reform the Government. So far as it has had the power, within the last three years, it has put in office the worst lot of bummers the country ever saw.

A BILL is about to be reported to Congress from the Committee on Commerce, imposing a tax of two dollars per head on every immigrant passenger landing at any port in the United States. The proceeds of this tax are to be paid into the Federal Treasury as a separate fund, to be used for the reimbursement of such States as may have incurred expenses for the support of alien paupers, and also for the return home of such immigrants as may have been convicted of crimes in their own country or are likely to become a public charge in this. The details of the bill are very severe upon masters and owners of emigrant ships. If this legislation shall be consummated, it will, of course, take the business of guarding against foreign pauperism out of the hands of the several States, and supersede the laws which have existed in some of them under which a levy of head-money has been made. These State laws have lately been pronounced unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of the United States. The regulation of the foreign commerce of the country is one of the express prerogatives of Congress, and it follows as a logical sequence that no individual State has the right to obstruct it by laws which are only local in their operation, or to tax it for revenue purposes.

IT IS one of the singularities of this campaign that the Democratic party should take up the cry of "Reform," and yet have the face to present the most corrupt candidates for popular support. The Indiana Democrats have been foremost in mouthing this cry, and that, too, while they had upon their State ticket the names of three corrupt scoundrels for Judges of the Supreme Court. Their State Convention renominated four of the Supreme Court Judges, in the very face of the fact that three of them were charged with filching money from the State upon vouchers for stationery and other materials alleged to have been furnished them. The charges, finally, grew so alarming that the Democrats were compelled to notice them; and conventions were held on Thursday last to nominate three new candidates in place of those charged with corruption. These conventions have done their work and have thrown over the nominees of the State Convention. The guilt is thus confessed of the men they have thrown off the ticket; and all this has been done at a time when the party was clamoring that it, and it alone, was the party of honesty and purity.

AN OBSERVANT friend who has just returned from an extensive tour through the West, gives it as his opinion that even if this year's corn crop should prove a total failure—which is as far from the probabilities of the case as any assumption can be—there would still be old corn enough in the West to carry the trade and consumption of the whole country over to another year. Besides, the growing crop is likely to be the largest ever harvested. In addition to the large stock now in elevators at Chicago, Milwaukee and other grain centers, he says there is an immense quantity of old corn still in the hands of farmers, who will be compelled to get rid of it before next October, in order to make room for the new crop. But if prices should go much lower in the meantime they will be likely to consume a large portion of it on the spot by converting it into pork, as they have a large stock of hogs, which are selling at relatively high prices.

THE present representation of the Western States in Congress is as follows:

States.	Dems.	Reps.
Ohio.....	13	7
Indiana.....	8	5
Illinois.....	13	6
Michigan.....	3	6
Wisconsin.....	3	5
Iowa.....	0	3